

# The Literary Digest

A WEEKLY COMPENDIUM OF THE CONTEMPORANEOUS THOUGHT OF THE WORLD

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## TOPICS OF THE DAY.

### SIX MONTHS FOR DEBS, AND WHAT IT MEANS.

A TURNING-POINT in the attitude of the law toward conflicts between capital and labor is generally felt to be involved in the recent decision in the Debs contempt case. We gave last week a summary of the judicial opinion, and we now present some of the more significant Press comments on the scope and true inwardness of the decision. There is, of course, a considerable diversity of opinion among the editors. While all admit the novelty of the view taken by the court, the great majority of the large newspapers regard the conclusions as entirely sound and self-evidently correct in law and morals. On the other hand, the journals that call themselves labor papers and reform papers generally look upon the decision as extremely strained and unwarranted. With regard to the court's jurisdiction in the case, only one paper, *The Springfield Republican*, has emphatically protested against basing the right of interference on an "implication."

**Fixing Responsibility for "Inevitable Violence."**—"The grounds on which Judge Woods has based his decision are incontrovertible. He brushes aside the lying pretenses of the defendants with laborious and exhaustive care. He upholds the right of employees to go on a peaceable strike, but affirms uncompromisingly the criminality of a conspiracy to do an unlawful thing. The responsibility for the car-burning and rioting he fixes in this one sentence: 'As officers of the American Railway Union it is beyond question the defendants had practical control of the strike, guiding as they chose the movements of the men actively engaged.'

"The decision establishes the law that in these labor disturbances the officers become criminally responsible for the acts of the men they incite—that 'all who engage, either as principals or advisers, aiders or abettors, in the commission of an unlawful act are individually responsible for the results.' It will teach agitators of the Debs stripe that when they order a general strike amid conditions which make violence inevitable they are acting in the same rôle as the Anarchists in the Haymarket Square, and that they are laying themselves liable to the same punishment.

"Nominally, this sentence is inflicted for contempt of court.

Fundamentally, it is a punishment for attempted revolution. The dictum of the strikers, 'The courts be d—,' was the bald expression of the spirit of Debs and of the other leaders behind them. It meant nothing less than defiance of the courts and of the Government whose laws the courts are commissioned to interpret. The Debses have gotten just what the Anarchist advisers of violence got, only in a much milder form. By this decision the un-American boycott has received a black eye for all time."—*The Journal (Rep.)*, Chicago.

**A Sound and Just Decision.**—"The decision of Judge Woods in the Debs contempt case is another valuable addition to the volume of judicial declarations relating to the law of labor contracts, to the rights of employers and employees, and to strikes.

"Labor and strike questions must be settled in the end on the basis of law and the principles of civilized government. This great subject is the present study of many earnest and devoted minds. All that aids their investigations is of high use and value. A single passage in the decision illustrates how easily a clear and vigorous mind rips a sophistry to pieces. The courts had declared that employees have a right to quit work singly or in concert, by agreement or otherwise, and to advise others to quit, all in a peaceable way, and not interfering with others.

"One of the counsel for the defendants, in construing this plain proposition, attempted to broaden its application. 'In free America,' he shouted, 'every man has a right to abandon his position for a good or a bad reason, and another, for a good or a bad reason, may advise him to do so.' Judge Woods says: 'Manifestly that is not true. If it were, a servant might quit his place and another might advise him to quit in order to make way for the entry of thieves or burglars into the employer's house.'

"Nothing could exemplify more completely the doctrine of criminal conspiracy. It is criminal to perform a lawful act for an unlawful purpose. It is lawful to quit an employment and to advise others to quit. But it is not lawful to quit a place or to advise another to quit in order to become an accessory to theft or burglary.

"The decision does not contain a single forced conclusion. There is not the slightest attempt to strain the force or purport of testimony in proving that the declaration of Debs, that he did not counsel violence and that his appeals to the riotous strikers to refrain from violence were made in good faith, was evasive and insincere. He must be judged by the necessary consequence of his acts, by what he admitted he knew would be the consequence. Mr. Debs says: 'Who can tell when violence will follow a strike?' meaning what moment it will break out.

"That is the end of argument. That is the decision in plain terms. Knowing that violence would follow the strike, Debs and his associates assumed its management, called out the men, invoked them to persevere, to 'stand pat,' instigated all the measures which led to the interference with traffic and the destruction of property."—*The Herald (Dem.)*, Chicago.

**No Injunction Against a General Peaceful Strike.**—"The decision of Judge Woods, in the case of Eugene Debs and other officers of the American Railway Union, is one of the most important in the history of the country. His position that the Government has power, under the law, to punish interference with the operation of the Government in the transmission of mails and the obstruction of inter-State commerce by means of violence and force, will not seem to any candid and fair-minded reader as anything unlooked-for or surprising. It would certainly be a very strange condition of things if the Government were not able, through the courts, and, if necessary, through the strong power of its military arm, to maintain peace and order, protect inter-State commerce and insure the safety of life and property, and also secure to itself freedom for the exercise of such an important function as the transmission of the mails.

"Some of the labor leaders are talking very bitterly about this

decision and of the action of the court in reaching it. It was hardly expected that it would meet with hearty approval from them, because it sets definite limitations to the means which they are privileged to employ in reaching their ends.

"There are undoubtedly intricate questions involved. The right to strike involves the right to strike by agreement. An understanding between two or more men to quit work at the same time for the sake of advancing their common interest is not unlawful, nor does this decision so maintain. It very clearly specifies, however, that such rights carry with them no privileges of conspiracy against the public good or permission to commit or incite to acts of violence.

"It is fair to assume that if acts of violence had not been committed no order of injunction would have been asked for, nor would any have been granted. All the railroad men in the United States might quit work to-morrow, and if no interference was made with those who might wish to take their places and no violence was attempted, it is safe to say that no court would hold them guilty of any act punishable under the law."—*The Journal (Rep.)*, Minneapolis.

**A Hopeless Legal Muddle.**—"We do not wonder that Judge Woods, as he admits, became sometimes 'entangled in doubt,' as he tried to thread these mazes of the law which leave the lay mind in inextricable confusion. The right of men to strike is admitted. Necessarily, there must be a consultation and agreement to strike preceding the strike. Striking means the cessation of work. Cessation means, if it is total, the stoppage of the trains. But the stoppage of the trains is a restraint on inter-State commerce; and the act of 1890, designed to prevent combinations or conspiracies to monopolize the production or sale of the products of industry, catches game for which the trap was not intended or set, and lands Debs and his fellows behind the bars. So we start in with an admitted right, and end in jail for exercising it. No wonder the layman puzzles over these quips and turns in the law, and gives the riddle up in despair. This confusion is not a bit relieved by the decision of Judge Dundy—if we do not mistake—who held that this same act did not apply to a combination of railways formed to compel the payment of such freight rates as the combination might adopt.

"But if the mind of the layman gets confused in trying to follow the sinuosities of the law, it is on more familiar grounds when it regards these puzzling decisions only as a part of existing conditions and attempts to get their drift. Carroll D. Wright was correct when, the other day, in an address before the students of Wesleyan University, he said, 'This strike'—the Chicago strike—'is an epoch-making episode.' These decisions but form some of the elements of the episode; important ones, too, because they bring out into bolder relief the hardships and oppressiveness of existing conditions, and thus facilitate the movement toward their solution by emphasizing its necessity.

"Undoubtedly, as Colonel Wright says, the tendency is to accelerate the movement toward State socialism, because they intensify the impression that large masses of men are remediless under present conditions which they imagine the State can relieve. We do not believe that it will end in State socialism, but long before it reaches that point there will be a revulsion toward a true democracy, which will bring with it a cure for these evils."—*The Globe (Dem.)*, St. Paul.

**A Fundamental Right Threatened.**—"The conviction of Debs and his associate leaders in the Chicago railroad strike and their sentence to six months' imprisonment are to us unexpected and ominous events. A somewhat careful reading of Judge Woods's decision leaves us with the impression that what it amounts to is just this: It is henceforth a crime to conduct a strike, if disturbance and disorder grow out of it in any manner whatever. . . . The question whether men have a right, by concerted arrangement, to quit work, is entirely different from the question whether they can rob, steal, burn, pillage, or assault. The men have the same right to quit work that their employer has to hire other men. If the employer exercises his right, it may result in violence; but the men guilty of the violence, and not the employer, are the ones to be punished. Just so of the right to quit work. It may result in disturbance; but the disturbers, and not those who quit work and who were in so doing clearly within their rights as free citizens, are the ones to be punished. Mr. Debs and his associates did not, so far as we can discern, commit or counsel violence. They were exercising their rights; and

it was not their business, but the business of the constituted authorities, to see that their exercise of those rights should not be made by others the occasion for disorder. The decision, if not reversed by a higher court, marks an important change in the fundamental rights of American citizenship."—*The Voice (Prohibition)*, New York.

**Judicial Encroachment on Law-Making Power.**—"Whatever judges may think of their right to apply the law of 1890 to strikers on railways, there is not a school boy who does not know that Congress in enacting it never contemplated such a result. The clear-cut purpose of the framers, disclosed in the speeches of Senators and Representatives, and in every word and line of the Act, was to prohibit combinations of capital from obstructing and impairing the commerce of the country. The judge practically acknowledged this in his decision; but hangs his distortion of the law upon a thread so slender that at a glance the profession must see that he violates every canon of construction familiar to it in doing so.

"Debs's counsel contended that the law of 1890 was directed at capital and to prevent the dangers resulting from vast aggregations of capital used in restraint of trade, and was not intended to operate against organizations of labor in any form. The judge admits that this is true, so far as the definite language of the Act is concerned, but concluding the sentence are the words, 'or otherwise,' and these he contends makes the Act a blanket to cover strikes as well as capitalistic combines, as intended to take the common wage-earners of the land by the throat when they attempt a strike, no matter what the oppression may be which drove them to it.

"The truth is, to meet what they conceive to be the necessities developed by the late strike, some courts have legislated more than Congress. Under the pretense of construing laws, they have enacted them; they have made common laws and acts of Congress Procrustean beds upon which labor has been stretched, and when it proved too short to suit their measure, they have stretched it with the torture, and when too long they have cut it off, head, legs, and all, to make it fit.

"If serious trouble shall grow out of the disputes between capital and labor, the courts must be held responsible for a great share of it. The settlement of such controversies should be left to the people, who will speak through the legislative bodies. The encroachment of the judiciary upon the rights of the law-making power neither adds to the dignity of courts nor to securing permanent and lasting peace."—*The News (Populist)*, Denver.

**A Grave Abuse of Power.**—"Now men either have a right to organize such a strike as that of last Summer or they have not. If they have no such right—if the law concedes no such right—then ample provision was at hand in existing law to meet the emergency and punish the leaders in the regular way. What business, then, had a court of equity in the field with a restraining order? But such acts of labor unions have been common for years; therefore, if the law makes no provision for the case, it is tantamount to saying the law would not interfere, and so a court of equity again has no business to set up its restraining authority. Either on one or the other of these alternative propositions Judge Woods's court must plant itself. He admits as much, and chooses the first. There was law enough in the case, and that law was the Anti-Trust Act. But is this the way to enforce law? Do any one of the thousands of statutes of the land offer cause for injunctions for whose violation men are to be imprisoned? Is the Inter-State Commerce Law to be enforced in this way and railroad magnates jailed for contempt without a trial?

"This is as grave an infringement of constitutional rights as the ship-money of Charles I. or the taxation without representation of George III. Both these abuses sheltered themselves under a plea of precedent,—so does this one. By implication, says Judge Woods, the Constitution gives to courts the right to punish for contempt. By implication! Fatal phrase, through which countless abuses have stolen authority in church and State. . . .

"Such a measure as this sentence is not only a wrong, but is full of danger. It puts a weapon in the hands of the judiciary which can and will be turned with deadly effect against the capitalist whenever a party of labor shall elect governors and presidents and judges. It shakes the popular confidence in the justice of our institutions which is our sheet-anchor in times of excitement. Just as the good sense and firmness of the American peo-



ple put down the revolt at Chicago, so, though by a different method, must this assault on liberty by judicial action be condemned and reversed."—*The Republican (Ind.)*, Springfield.

"Though the Strike Commissioners have exonerated the Railroad Union for any participation in the riot and bloodshed at Chicago, the railway magnates have their revenge in the sentencing of Debs to six months' imprisonment, and the rest of the officers of the Railway Union to three months. Having their own tools on the bench, justice had no part in the sentencing of Debs and his companions, and the petty spite, which their sentencing gratifies, may be dearly bought."—*The Twentieth Century (Socialist)*, New York.

### SHALL WE BUILD OR CONTROL THE NICARAGUA CANAL?

**T**HE Bill providing for control of the proposed Nicaragua Canal by the United States has again come up before the Senate for debate. It provides that the Government shall guarantee the bonds of the construction company to the amount of \$100,000,000, and shall secure the ownership of a certain interest in the enterprise; Senator Morgan, the author of this Bill, is confident of its passage, in spite of the determined resistance of several Democratic Senators who regard the scheme as a "job." Senator Call has introduced an amendment to the Bill, providing that the Government shall acquire the title to the property of the company and carry the enterprise to completion at its own expense, owning it absolutely afterward.

Most of the arguments in favor of the pending Bill are founded on the fear of foreign attempts to secure control of the Canal; but some of the opponents of the scheme insist that American control is by no means the only alternative to foreign control, and that it is possible to secure the complete neutralization of the canal irrespective of the parties supplying the funds for its construction.

**We Should Have no Partners in the Canal.**—"It is believed that the canal could be built for less than \$70,000,000, and there is no doubt that it would be worth all that amount to the United States in view of its relation to the traffic that passes between our Atlantic and Pacific coasts and the need of such a highway for the transfer of ships of war from one station to the other. England controls the Suez Canal, and thereby controls the short highway between Europe and its possessions in India and Australia. England would not be without that short highway for many times more than the total cost of the canal. Similar considerations to those that prompted England to acquire control of the Suez Canal should prompt the United States to construct and control a canal across the Isthmus of Nicaragua.

"This country should have no partners in the construction and ownership of this highway except the little nations through which it would pass, and their interest should not be a controlling one. It would be bad policy to let the canal company raise the money it needs by selling its bonds in Europe without a reservation of ownership in the United States, for foreign capital might degenerate into foreign ownership.

"The present session of Congress should not be permitted to go by without some definite action favorable to the construction of this great work. The question at issue is not difficult to comprehend, and therefore it need not involve a lengthy debate. A bill guaranteeing the bonds of the company would put everything right in a little while. The company could in that case dispose of its bonds at par, and construction could be begun in the course of a few months at most after the passage of the bill."—*The Republican (Rep.)*, Denver.

**Popular Temper Against Foreign Ownership.**—"There is no probability whatever that England will make any serious attempt to interfere with the building, ownership, or control of the Nicaragua Canal. The settled policy not only of the United States, but of all America, as to the essential elements of the so-called Monroe Doctrine as it is applied to the canal project, is too well understood in Europe to admit of the carrying out of any scheme for the building of the canal against American protest. And the protest has been heard, not only on the floors of Congress, but

throughout the country. The popular temper on the subject is unmistakable.

"It remains for the Government to take such steps as will insure that the waterway, when completed, shall be directly and indisputably under the control of the United States. And that is what will be done. It may not be provided for by the present Congress, but there is to be a business Congress to follow that will find time to do something more than toy with the country's interests. The feasibility of the project has been established beyond all question. Its commercial importance is recognized by everybody, and as a factor in the defense of the Nation whenever there may be need for defense, its value cannot be overestimated. All precedents go to show that it will be a successful financial investment, remunerative from the day of its completion.

"The investment required from the Government in order to insure its building and direct control is really an insignificant matter. The saving to the Government alone, year after year, would go not a little way toward paying any deficiency in interest payments that might occur."—*The Journal (Rep.)*, Kansas City.

**Government Indorsement Does Not Insure Control.**—"The proposition for a Government indorsement to the bonds does not affect National control at all. If the bonds are guaranteed they will be sold, and they will be sold abroad. The only thing American will be the stock, and the stock will be American only until the project may be demonstrated a success. The stock will then go abroad, just as readily as our gold goes abroad when foreigners want it. There would be nothing to induce holding it here but the patriotism of Boss Platt and his associates, and that would amount to nothing if there was money to be made by selling what cost them practically nothing. France built the Suez Canal, but England owns it, and England would own the Nicaragua Canal whenever it became a profitable investment. On the other hand, if it proved to be a failure, the United States would simply have to pay the bonds and take the wreck.

"As a business proposition, if the project is feasible, private capital can very easily be found to carry it through, provided the United States and other nations agree that it shall be neutral ground at all times, and that is exactly what it ought to be."—*The Sentinel (Dem.)*, Indianapolis.

**Value of the Canal to Commerce.**—"The probable value of the Nicaragua Canal to commerce may be best judged from facts and statistics. It is generally said that the Pacific coast will be especially benefited. But what benefits the Pacific Coast by shortening the water route to the East and increasing competition with the railroads, thereby reducing freight charges both on land and water, benefits all the country.

"New York is 14,840 miles distant from San Francisco by way of Cape Horn. The canal would shorten the distance to 4,946, a gaining of 9,894 miles. The distance from this city to Hong Kong by Cape Horn is 18,180 miles; by the Cape of Good Hope, 15,201 miles. By way of the canal it would be 11,038 miles, a saving over the shorter Cape route of 4,163 miles.

"New Orleans is now 15,052 miles from San Francisco by way of the Cape. The canal route between the two cities would be 4,047 miles, a saving of 11,005 miles.

"San Francisco is now 150 miles nearer to Liverpool than to New York by the Cape Horn route. The canal would save California traffic 6,996 miles on a voyage to Liverpool, and New York would be nearer than Liverpool to the Pacific metropolis by 2,748 miles. The benefit of this change would not be wholly with the Pacific Coast. Liverpool also would gain important advantages through the canal. It would lose its advantage over New York, but it would be brought nearer to Melbourne by 392 miles, to Yokohama by 3,929 miles, and to Hong Kong by 1,265 miles.

"It is estimated that the Pacific coast ships about 1,800,000 tons of wheat and flour a year to the Atlantic ports and to Europe. It is asserted that the freight charges on this by reason of the canal would be \$2 a ton less than now, which would be an annual saving to the wheat producers of the Pacific Coast of \$3,600,000, for the price of wheat being fixed in London the wheat-grower of this country pays the freight charges.

"The value of the canal to commerce is beyond question. If the canal shall be built, the United States will become much more compact for the purposes of commerce.

"The reduction of rates of freight is but an incident of the saving of time. At present goods are carried from New York to San Francisco by regular freight trains in from twenty-five to

thirty days, by steamer in from forty-five to fifty days, and in sailing vessels in from 110 to 120 days. Lower vessel-freights and shorter voyages will inevitably bring down railroad-freights."—*The World (Dem.)*, New York.

**More Preposterous than the Panama Scheme.**—"The Nicaragua scheme is vastly more chimerical than that undertaken at Panama. The topographical obstacles are very much greater, and the difficulties with regard to water are insuperable by any reasonable expenditure of money. The information given to Congress and the public concerning this scheme has been absolutely one-sided and colored by self-interest.

"If it is desirable to connect the two oceans by means of a canal, the first step would be a thoroughly impartial examination of rival routes by a commission of engineers that will command the confidence of the public. A route has been suggested below the Isthmus of Panama, which is described as short, cheap and easily constructed. It may or it may not be so, but it is at least entitled to an examination before the country is irretrievably committed to a scheme that will exhaust the resources of the National Treasury. It is asserted by those interested in the proposed Nicaragua Canal that it can be built for one hundred millions of dollars. It is exceedingly doubtful if the approaches to the canal on either side could be constructed for that sum. It would take at least one hundred millions of dollars to dig a safe and permanent approach to the proposed canal on the Gulf side and run the canal to the San Juan River. It would take one hundred and fifty millions to build the necessary basins and the connecting waterway, and it would take another hundred and fifty millions to dredge Lake Nicaragua, and run the canal to the coast, and provide it with safe means of access.

"This estimate, four hundred millions of dollars, is really modest if it is proposed to build a canal that will accommodate the merchant-marine of the world now, and for a quarter of a century, and surely it is not intended to build it for fun, or as a monument of American folly. The interest charges at 3 per cent. would be twelve millions of dollars a year, and yet Congress is gravely asked to saddle this colossal debt on the country at a time when the Administration has been compelled to borrow one hundred millions for current expenses in less than a year. There are in this absurd scheme the possibilities of a scandal which, in comparison with Panama, would be as Ossa to a wart."—*The American (Rep.)*, Baltimore.

### FEDERATED LABOR CHANGES ITS LEADERSHIP.

THE American Federation of Labor held its annual Convention in Denver, December, 10-18. Features that attracted special attention were the presence of John Burns, the English labor-leader, as one of the delegates representing the trades-



JOHN MCBRIDE.

unions of Great Britain, and the election of a new President to succeed Samuel Gompers, whose administration is admitted to have been very successful. The Federation includes the strongest trades-unions of the country, and more than two thousand delegates attended the Convention.

A large number of propositions were before the Convention for definite political action. The most important point settled by

the Convention is that political questions are not to be treated by the Federation as a distinct party, but that the trades-unions shall continue to strive for legislation favorable to labor in the ways that have proved successful in the past. Among the resolutions passed by the Convention are these: for compulsory education; for an eight-hour work-day; for the abolition of the sweating

system; for sanitary inspection of mines and factories; for nationalization of telegraphs, railroads, and telephones; for municipal ownership of street-cars and gas- and water-works; for the free coinage of silver at 16 to 1; for abolishing all monopoly of land tenure and making use and improvement the title to land; and for the adoption of the Referendum in all legislation.

Among the resolutions rejected by the Convention was the one stoutly advocated by the Socialist element "for the collective ownership by the people of all means of production and distribution," one for compulsory arbitration of labor disputes, and one for State and National destruction of the liquor traffic.

In his presidential address, Mr. Gompers suggested that the present time is propitious for a renewal of the fight for a legal eight-hour work-day, but the Convention did not indorse this suggestion.

There were only two candidates for the Presidency, Mr. Gompers and John McBride, the President of the United Mine-Workers, who led the great miners' strike last Summer. It is believed that Mr. Gompers owes his defeat to the Radical and Socialist elements of the Federation, who opposed him as too conservative and narrow. Mr. McBride, however, is believed to be equally objectionable to the Radicals, and they supported him merely to revenge themselves on Mr. Gompers.

Referring to the change of Presidents, *The New York Times (Dem.)* says:

"The election of Mr. McBride as President of the Federation is in the direction of greater moderation and probably of greater intelligence in the conduct of the unions. Mr. Gompers has been at the head of the organization during a formative and trying period in its existence, and his course has not been discreditable, but he has not shown any high degree of sagacity and has been too ready to countenance, or at least to excuse, the lawless methods and disrespect of public authority. Nothing could be more unwise in a labor-leader, and Mr. Gompers has allowed himself to be betrayed into indiscretion by Socialistic tendencies. Mr. McBride is known only as the head of the United Mine-Workers, and will be chiefly remembered for his attitude toward the miners' strike last Summer. While he sympathized with its purpose and upheld it at the outset, he set himself unequivocally against all resort to violence, and did not hesitate to denounce the lawless performances which compromised the effort to readjust the scale of wages and practically defeated the strike. He has made a reputation for moderation and respect for law and public authority which he will have a conspicuous opportunity to justify."

*The New York Commercial Advertiser (Rep.)* takes a different view, as follows:

"The defeat of Mr. Gompers is a blow at the best interests of organized labor. By his temperate and prudent course as chief of the American Federation of Labor he has done much to win the respect of the public for that body. Notably was this the case when he refused to allow himself and his followers to be recklessly dragged into Debs's rebellion last Summer. The success which the American Federation has achieved has been largely the result of Mr. Gompers's foresight, zeal and executive capacity."

*The Pittsburg Times (Dem.)* says:

"It is the elevation to the head of the greatest labor organization of this country of a man who preaches the doctrine of independent political action by organized workingmen, in line with the policy of John Burns in England. It is also the triumph of a man who has won his way to the top in spite of great obstacles, beginning as a water-carrier in a coal-mine at the age of eleven years, and by his own ability, industry, and concentration upon one purpose at a time, earning his way to the highest office in the gift of organized labor in America."

With regard to the rejection of the Socialist plank, *The Chicago Times (Dem.)* says:

"The Federation of Labor has declared itself for Socialism as against State Socialism—a distinction broader than the difference



in the terms. It calls for public ownership of natural monopolies, but refuses to demand the public ownership of all the means of production and distribution. . . . The position thus taken by the associated representatives of labor is in accordance not only with the teachings of the best-equipped economists, but with the general trend of legislation to-day."

*The Indianapolis Sentinel* (Dem.) says:

"The American Federation of Labor has some as crude ideas of 'Socialism' as the average run of American people. It indulges in a great row over the demand for 'the ownership by the people of all means of production and distribution,' and yet it swallows without effort a proposition for 'municipal ownership of street cars, and gas, water and electric plants,' and also one for 'the nationalization of telegraphs, telephones, railroads and mines.' After indulging in two such doses of Socialism as these, one would naturally suppose that the Federation would not hesitate at anything. In fact, there would not be a great deal left to make public property after complying with the two resolutions adopted."

*The People* (Socialist) says:

"No one will regret that that Socialist programme was disavowed. Socialism needs no such avowals. The Sun shines, whether people acknowledge the fact or deny it. So is Socialism a truth that is bound to break its way through. In fact, one need but to read the reports of the Convention to perceive that the delegates who opposed the program realized Socialism to be a power, the coming power, and it was bound to crush them. Socialism was ever on their lips; that thought hovered over them; they trembled at it like a culprit who feels the approach of the avenging hand."

#### HAWAIIAN EPISODE AGAIN TO THE FORE.

IN compliance with a Senate resolution, the correspondence of last July and August between Secretary Gresham and Rear-Admiral Walker regarding Hawaiian affairs has been laid before Congress. The Press is excited over the contents of the Walker letters, and the old controversy on the subject of the Administration's policy toward Hawaii is likely to be revived. The correspondence shows that the Admiral was sent to Hawaii on March 23, with instructions to protect Americans in the event of disturbance, to report any attempts at interference by foreign powers, and to give asylum, in the event of insurrection, to refugees of either party, at his discretion. On July 9 the Admiral was ordered to return upon the arrival of the *Charleston*, then expected at Honolulu; on July 20 he was ordered to return without awaiting the arrival of the *Charleston*. This order he disobeyed, and in a long letter he gives his reasons for the disobedience. When the British Minister, Major Wadehouse, learned that Admiral Walker was ordered to depart on the *Philadelphia*, he changed his plans about the British warship *Champion*, which was to leave to take deep-sea soundings, and ordered it to remain in port. This excited Admiral Walker's fears. Wadehouse was currently believed to favor the royalist cause, and he might take advantage of the absence of an American vessel to encourage the royalists in case of a disturbance. The Admiral did not leave Honolulu until after Minister Wadehouse had been relieved by another British representative. The Admiral's letters dwell on English influences in Hawaii, and thinks that we ought to be at hand at all times "to perform the duties of our virtual protectorate."

We append some brief Press comment, from which it will be seen that Hawaii has not ceased to be a live topic in editorial sanctums:

"It reflects no credit on the Administration. On the contrary, it is, in fact, an implied censure, so far as an officer in Admiral Walker's position, acting under hidebound instructions from his superior officers, dare make. But he has fearlessly done his duty."—*The Recorder* (Rep.), New York.

"It is easy to see now why Admiral Walker, the most capable

and distinguished officer of his rank in the United States Navy, was hurried home from Hawaii, his report suppressed, and he himself snubbed and insulted by a textile-fabric Administration. It is because his observations at Honolulu brought into clearer and more merciless relief that 'policy of infamy' which the whole country has since so signally repudiated."—*The Journal* (Rep.), Boston.

"Admiral Walker's report shows that he kept a vigilant watch in behalf of American interests, and that he was alert to every movement on the part of the British. The Admiral acted a part as patriotic as that of President Cleveland and his fellow conspirators was disgraceful."—*The Press* (Rep.), New York.

"The country will applaud the sturdy unwillingness of Admiral Walker to recognize the suspicious suggestion that may be read between the lines of his ambiguous instructions, or to make himself a party, even indirectly or by premature departure from his post, to a revolt of the partisans of the dusky and bloodthirsty Liliuokalani."—*The Sun* (Dem.), New York.

"Admiral Walker's letter on Hawaiian affairs, made public yesterday, ought to result in his court-martialing for insubordination and conduct unbecoming an officer. Such a mixture of insolence to his superior officer and going out of his way to insult the Minister and the Government of a friendly nation, and all on the strength of mere surmise and air-blown rumor, could not be duplicated in naval annals."—*The Evening Post* (Ind.), New York.

"One of the most noticeable features of the controversy from the beginning has been the ease with which old, time-worn information could be palmed off by sensation mongers on hysterical night editors and even leader writers as startlingly new and portentous disclosures."—*The Advertiser* (Rep.), Boston.

"The attempt of the Administration to discipline Admiral Walker for telling the truth will not permanently injure that gallant officer. He is in the same boat with at least ninety-nine hundredths of the American people."—*The American* (Rep.), Baltimore.

"The Admiral's condemnation, though not outspoken, is strong and uncompromising. The Admiral seems to hold the conviction that it is for the interest of the United States, above all other nations, to possess part or the whole of Hawaii."—*The Standard* (Rep.), Troy.



THE MAN WITH THE GOUT.  
—*The Times*, Troy.

#### TENNESSEE LYNCHERS GO FREE.

IN the trial of Detective Richardson and Planter H. N. Smith, charged with lynching six Negroes near Knoxville in August last, the jury brought in a verdict of not guilty on December 14, and the accused went out of the court free men. There were nine other men under indictment for the same crime, but a *nolle pros.* was entered in the case of each of them.

It will be remembered that the Negroes lynched in this case were under arrest on the charge of arson. Chained one to the other, they were taken at night to Memphis, but a gang of masked men stopped them and shot them dead. Great excitement prevailed in the State, the newspapers loudly called for the punishment of the lynchers, and indictments followed. Two of the indicted men were brought to trial, but the evidence against them did not prove sufficient to convince the jury of their guilt. The principal witness for the prosecution was "Butch" McCarver, son

of the Sheriff of Memphis, and personal friend of the accused. To avoid testifying against them he declared himself an Atheist, the laws of Tennessee providing that persons expressing disbelief in God and the hereafter shall be disqualified from giving testimony in courts of law. Although McCarver was ruled competent by the Court, his testimony is said to have been discredited in the minds of the jury by the evidence of his reckless life, alleged infidelity, and a previous arrest for perjury.

Many of the Tennessee newspapers deplore the outcome of the trial, and ascribe the failure of justice to the antiquated laws of the State in regard to the selection of jurors and the admission of testimony. It is said that the intelligence of the State is never represented by the juries in important criminal cases, and that only the most bigoted and ignorant are selected as jurors. The evidence against the accused in this case is conceded to have been very damaging. There was proof of a conspiracy to arrest the negroes and conduct them into the ambushade.

**The Law Ties the Hands of the Prosecution.**—"It is doubtful if a conviction for lynching where the victim is a negro can ever be had in Tennessee so long as we are afflicted with laws governing the selection of juries which put a premium on ignorance and act as a bar to intelligence. The lynchers will always have the sympathy of the lowest and most ignorant class of whites, and this is about the only class that can get into a jury-box in a criminal case of any notoriety, when the defendants are able to hire smart counsel. As the law stands, it is wholly in the interest of the accused. The State has its hands tied from the beginning, and in such a trial as that which closed yesterday [December 14], there never can be any doubt as to the result, no matter how ably and zealously the prosecution may be conducted.

"The Press of the South has always claimed, and with truth on its side, that the prejudice which prevents an equal administration of justice between the two races is not entertained by the better class of whites. To this our critics answer that this is an admission that intelligence and character do not rule in the South. The rejoinder is conclusive so far as criminal trials are concerned, for the Tennessee rule which fills the jury-boxes with the other sort of people obtains in other Southern States.

"The only remedy that we can see would be the abolition of trial by jury or such amendment of the laws as will open the jury-box to men of the more competent and conscientious kind.

"The evils of the present method are not apparent in lynching trials only. They are felt in every trial when the accused has friends among those eligible for jury service."—*The Scimitar (Dem.)*, Memphis.

**A Grave Miscarriage of Justice.**—"There was a grave miscarriage of justice in the Memphis court a few days ago, one of the most serious miscarriages for many years. Yet the incident caused hardly any excitement and little remark. That it caused little remark can be accounted for by the almost universal expectation that justice would miscarry in that case. It seemed to be assumed that the trial of the accused persons would be a dry formality. The assumption appears to have been justified by the facts. . . .

"If this case was exceptional it would lose much of its sinister significance. The truth is that it rather indicates a rule than an exception. Had it been followed by the punishment of the murderers, the effect would have been to elevate the standard of law and justice throughout the South. The civilized world would have applauded, and the protest against the charge of supineness would have been sustained. As it is, the world will have its opinion, and its opinion will rest upon the record of this case in the court. . . .

"Unjust as it may appear, these bloody assizes will be laid to the charge of the American people, though less than a tenth of the body so named hold to any such perversions of law and procedure. However much we may detest and protest, the world will charge up these murders against us as a people. And there will be a grim sort of justice in the accounting."—*The North American (Rep.)*, Philadelphia.

**Thwarted by the Jury.**—"To the surprise and sorrow of the people of the State, the parties plainly guilty of the Kerrvil massacre were acquitted by the jury yesterday at Memphis. That

crime was an awful one and the manner of its commission was an exhibition of horrible cruelty and bloodthirstiness. The judge and the attorney-general did their duty in strenuously working to bring to punishment the barbarians who did the slaughter, so in this case it was the jury alone that is responsible for the discredit that is again thrown on our courts. The Memphis Press and people strove mightily to wipe out the disgrace of that affair, but the jury thwarted them."—*The Press (Dem.)*, Chattanooga.

**Lynchers Are Never Punished.**—"Here is another case which follows the rule and confirms it; for we believe there are no exceptions to the rule that those who lynch Negroes are never punished. Our readers will remember the fearful case near Knoxville, Tenn., last August, in which six Negroes, charged with barn-burning, or something of that sort, were, by collusion with the sheriff, captured from him while under arrest, and murdered. This is the case in which a witness who was asked to join the party, son of the sheriff, declined at first to testify on the ground that he was an Atheist. The verdict is, Not guilty. The jury had not been out twenty hours. It is somewhat encouraging to be informed that the shouts and cheers of the friends of the accused when the verdict was announced were immediately drowned by the hisses and groans of others. There were many Negroes in the court room; but they were silent. They remembered that within three years ten Negroes have been lynched in that neighborhood and nobody punished for it. And yet we suppose God is not dead."—*The Independent (Rep.)*, New York.

## JURY DUTY FOR AMERICAN WOMEN.

**I**F women are to vote, are they also to serve on juries? A temperate discussion of this and of other features of the question of woman suffrage appears in *The Century*, December, signed Eleanora Kinnicutt. The article is singularly free from anything dogmatic, or even anything very positive, what the writer has to say being couched more in the form of suggestion than of conclusion. She indicates her preference for restricting woman suffrage, if we are to have it at all, to educated women, and she is quite earnest in the hope that the recent discussion of the subject in New York State will result in a fuller realization by women of the public duties which they can already fulfil with advantage to themselves and the public. We quote as follows:

"The question of what services women could render to the State, in return for the full privileges of citizenship, remains undetermined. There is silence on this point if on no other. Men give military and jury service; the fact that all men are not able to do this does not constitute a denial of the duty. Many women when told that the State has need of a certain proportion of soldiers to voters dismiss the remark lightly. But surely they must all have observed, during the recent days of excitement and of military rule at Chicago, that there are times in the history of every country when Government, if it is Government in fact as well as in figure, must measure its strength on the plane of physical force.

"Dr. [Mary Putnam] Jacobi says that women, if given the franchise, should perform jury duty. Many will agree with her in this, not because they see in the proposition any economic application of forces, nor because of any clear notion how the plan could be practically and pleasantly carried out, but from sheer unwillingness to accept all and to give nothing. The burden of jury duty would fall principally on the women whose occupations, paid or unpaid, are connected with house- and home-keeping, for the reason that these constitute the larger number, and their physique is not, as a rule, taxed so heavily as that of the bread-winning women outside. But here, aside from the question of strength and fitness, we touch upon a point of deep significance. When the State summons a man to the courts, it says to him, 'Drop your business and serve me; your highest duty is your civic duty.' To the woman,—after having excluded the long list of 'excused,'—it would be obliged to say, 'Leave your domestic affairs and attend to me; the State has the right to summon you peremptorily from your home.' This right, by fixing arbitrarily, for uncertain periods of time, the woman's absence from home, would establish the principle that personal duties may at any moment become secondary in a woman's life, and, if put into



effect, would clog many a wheel in domestic machinery. The daily round of a woman's duties, household or personal, is often spoken of slightly, for the reason that, taken singly, the duties often do seem small. But anybody knows how much of the well-being, the comfort, and the good-temper of life depends upon trifles. 'Madam,' said a philosopher, recently, in answer to a young woman's impatient plea for more poetry and less prose in every-day life, 'I am an old man, and experience has taught me that there is much poetry in well-ordered prose.'

"There are reasons against women serving on mixed juries in the trial of promiscuous cases, which a mere reading of the court and police reports in any daily newspaper will help make evident. Jury duty for women, viewed from this point, changes from a practical into a social and ethical question.

"Americans (perhaps better said the people of a republic) are always peculiarly suspicious of men in the community who show willingness to step to the front in public affairs. These men are directly branded by the do-nothings as 'ambitious,' and their motives are easily discredited. Do American women fail to see the great advantage that for this reason they possess over men, and are they willing to throw it impatiently away? A woman can expend upon public affairs to-day almost as many forces—time, money, and vital energies—as can a man. She may lose a great deal by failure; she can win nothing but inner satisfaction by success. Herein lies the strength of her position. Disinterestedness of motive is a mighty weapon and a strong shield.

"If any woman would study what opportunities are within her grasp to-day, let her examine into the life-work of Miss Louisa Lee Schuyler, and learn what she has accomplished, not as a philanthropist, but as a practical politician. It is safe to say that no man in the State of New York knows more accurately than Miss Schuyler what laws have been enacted at Albany during the last twenty years, and the records of the men whose names have been associated with them, in the Senate and the Assembly, to say nothing of the knowledge of municipal affairs. In the interest of some measures for the introduction of which Miss Schuyler was herself responsible, she has worked with unflagging industry, watchfulness, knowledge of detail, and patience, without which they would hardly have been carried through to success. Two laws recently enacted represent, the one three years, the other five years, of unceasing political activity on her part. Miss Schuyler has undoubtedly exceptional gifts in conceiving and shaping philanthropic measures, but her victories have been won, as she herself would be the first to urge, by means of qualities possessed in common with many women who to-day are waiting for the political shackles to fall before they take hold in real earnest of public affairs."

Some of the "public affairs" to which reference is made in the last sentence above, are stated more specifically as influence in the management of State hospitals, asylums, and prisons, superintendence "over every public school for girls," assistance in the enforcement of tenement-house and poor laws, and of the laws pertaining to health and cleanliness, and reform of rules pertaining to the work of women and children in factories and shops.

**TREASURY GOLD AGAIN DISAPPEARING FAST.**—As a result of the second sale of bonds, the gold reserve at the Treasury on December 5 stood at \$111,000,000. Since then, however, withdrawals by bankers have again caused a heavy loss of the metal, and at this writing the reserve is reduced to about \$89,000,000. These withdrawals are expected to continue, the restoration of the Treasury to a "sound condition" having produced no effect on the demand for gold. It is not believed that the withdrawals have been made for export to offset an unfavorable balance of trade, because reports show that three times as much gold has been taken out in the last fortnight as has been shipped to Europe in the same time. Some newspapers are talking about another issue of bonds, while others are advocating a popular loan.



A SLIPPERY PLACE.

—The Evening News, Detroit.

## THE BANK OF ENGLAND UNDER FIRE.

ENGLAND has a currency question also. It may not be as acute as ours, but the writer—Robert Ewen—of the leading article in *The Westminster Review*, December, thinks that it is one of much importance nevertheless. The question he presses is quite similar to the one aroused by the Baltimore plan and Secretary Carlisle's plan in this country, namely, shall the currency of the country be issued by banks or by the Government itself, and Mr. Ewen is very clear in his mind, and he says that Mr. Gladstone is equally clear, that the Government should do the issuing. He opens by attributing much of the blame for the depressed condition of trade in England, and "the frequent monetary disturbances, panics, and scares" there, to "the antiquated and awkward-working money laws of England." The Banking Act of 1844, he says, destroys free banking and established "the monstrous Bank of England monopoly." The change to a gold basis, made in 1816, he attributes to the desire of the Tories, after the defeat of Napoleon, to throw the burdens incurred by the war "off their own shoulders on to the backs of the common people." This change to a gold basis, he says, increased the national debt enormously, injuriously contracted the currency, and spoiled trade. He cites the fact that none of England's colonies have imitated the Bank of England system as evidence that the system is not as good as it pretends to be, and urges that the Bank of England be treated as an independent banking company instead of as the sole Government bank, and the issue of notes be made by the Government itself through a British National Bank in connection with the Treasury. On this point he writes as follows:

"A National Bank could issue national notes upon the security of the Government, than which nothing could be a better currency or circulating medium. These notes would be 'legal tenders,' and pass for ready money over all the three kingdoms as freely as coin. Mr. Gladstone has frequently said he thought the Government should have the benefit of the note circulation or the issue of 'legal tenders.' Speaking on the Irish Home Rule Bill, on this point he said: 'Ireland might think fit to pass a law providing for the extinction of private issues in Ireland, except under the authority and for the advantage of the State. I own it is my opinion that Ireland would do an extremely sensible thing if she passed such a law. It is my strong decided opinion that we ought to have the same law ourselves.' If this is also the decided opinion of the present Government there should be little or no difficulty in carrying out these views for the expansion of the currency, not only in Ireland, but in Great Britain as well. We believe that would do more than tongue can tell to put trade into a prosperous state. If the Treasury will take its banking business into its own hands and issue national notes, as already proposed, for, say, *one hundred million pounds sterling*, or such an amount as Parliament may authorize, in denominations of *ten shillings, one pound, five pounds*, and upward, and lay aside or cancel Consols for the same, these national notes would be a far safer and steadier circulating medium and measure of value than the *sovereign* or than gold bullion, which fluctuates like other metals.

"The banks of the country might get licenses to issue their own notes likewise on lodging Consols as securities for their issues with the Treasury; these bank-notes should be payable on demand in national notes. That would provide as good a currency for this country as was provided by Mr. Pitt and served so well."

## VIGOROUS DEFENSE OF SECRETARY GRESHAM.

THE frequent attacks by Republicans and anti-Administration Democrats on Secretary Gresham, particularly in connection with his foreign policy, which is denounced as unpatriotic, weak, un-American, and perverse, prompt *The Herald* (Ind.), Boston, to review Mr. Gresham's military and civil record with the view of showing that the animus of his assailants is partly personal malevolence, partly partisan unfairness. The attempt

to throw doubt upon the Secretary's patriotism *The Herald* characterizes as ineffable meanness and unscrupulousness. It avers that it is a reproach to the American people to tolerate the "shameful slanders" of "malignant politicians" directed against Mr. Gresham.

Speaking of his record, *The Herald* says:

"Who is Secretary Gresham, who is held up in these partisan quarters as un-American and unpatriotic? One of the bravest and most gallant of the soldiers of the loyal armies in the War of the Rebellion—a man who went through that contest with the highest distinction, and bears upon his person the marks of severe wounds received in battle. If there can be a test of Americanism and of patriotism, it was furnished here. . . . It would be edifying to compare—or to contrast either—the record of this hero of the Rebellion with the record of those who carp at him personally and assail his character for patriotism. . . .

"And what has been the record of General Gresham since he devoted his life and shed his blood for the preservation of his country? In his civil, following his military, career, there is nothing purer, more creditable, more absolutely without reproach, in the career of any of our public men. He long held at the West a position in the Republican Party which made him one of the most respected and admired men in its ranks. He always commanded more than the party strength, from the esteem in which he was held for the nobility of his character. He was selected for the highest positions by Republican Presidents; he was recognized as a man for whom no office was above his merits. More than once he was suggested as a candidate even for the presidency in that party, and that by those of its members who recognized as the first qualification for the office the highest type of patriotism, the patriotism that is conspicuous for its purity in public life. Not a shadow of a shade of reproach came to this man from any quarter while he continued a member of the Republican Party. His ability, his patriotism, his distinguished service in military and in civil life, were considered part of its glories, and were never questioned even by its opponents.

"That which the Democrats had left without reproach out of deference to the purity of the man, and from gratitude for his sacrifice for the country, while General Gresham was acting with the Republicans in politics, it remained for the Republicans to attack in the manner we have above described. He offended and irritated them by leaving their party, and his sin in their eyes was all the greater from the fact that he had been such an important man in its membership while he was with them. . . . They constantly slander and misrepresent him, as the only method of making a plausible showing on this point. His course in maintaining the dignity and fairness of the nation before the world, which is the only Americanism worthy a statesman in our foreign relations, is represented as unpatriotic, and an appeal to ignorance and prejudice is the staple of such an assault. It would be most discreditable as applied to any American Secretary of State; it is peculiarly shameful when directed against a gallant American soldier, who has shed his blood for the preservation of the integrity of the Nation."



THE CAT OUT OF THE BAG.

—The Philadelphia Press.

STUDYING INTO THE DRINK QUESTION.—A movement has been started for a widespread investigation of the effects of the use of intoxicating drinks. The object is to secure facts and statistics to serve as a basis for private conduct and public action. A committee of fifty men, representing different communities and occupations, has undertaken the work. Seth Low, President of Columbia College, New York, is president, and the other officers of the committee are: Charles Dudley Warner, Prof. F. G. Peabody, General F. A. Walker, Dr. J. S. Billings, William E. Dodge, and Col. Jacob L. Greene. The committee has sent letters to thousands of people throughout the country, explaining the purpose of the investigation, and requesting answers to questions under the following heads:

(1.) Age. (2.) Occupation. (3.) Are you a total abstainer? (4.) If so, have you always been so? (5.) Do you drink spirits, wine, or beer occasionally as a social function, but not daily? (6.) Do you drink spirits, wine, or beer every day as a matter of habit? If so, please state the kind and the amount of liquor thus consumed. (If affirmative answers are given to either of the last two questions please state whether any particular form of alcoholic drink is in your case found to be specially desirable or undesirable.) (7.) Are you aware of any chronic disturbance of your health; and if so, what is its nature? (8.) Give any facts derived from your personal experience which will throw light on the problems under investigation.

All replies will be directed to Dr. Billings, and the facts obtained will be used in the compilation of statistical tables. No names will be given to the public. The committee is confident that the investigation will result in throwing much-needed light on the important questions involved.

## TOPICS IN BRIEF.

"CHESNEY:—'Women would never be able to vote seriously,' Radbourn:—'Why not?' Chesney:—'Because they would want to go round and get samples of the candidates before making up their minds.'"  
—Life, Brooklyn.

"THE young Czar thinks of bestowing a Congress upon Russia. If Mr. Cleveland's opinion is asked he will simply cable back, 'Don't.'"  
—The Globe-Democrat, St. Louis.

"E. V. DEBS is finally suffering from a complete tie-up."  
—The World, New York.

"WHAT expectant Senator Tillman will want to know is whether 'alcohol used in the arts' will cover the artistic use of the article in the Senate cloak-room."  
—The Inter Ocean, Chicago.

"IF the attack on the gold reserve be treason, somebody is making the most of it."  
—The Tribune, Detroit.

"IF Congress keeps on, the chances are that we shall have no currency at all. If the courts keep on, telephones will be a drug on the market."  
—The Recorder, New York.

"THE three back-numbers of the day—Cleveland, Zola, and Li Hung Chang."  
—The Star-Sayings, St. Louis.

"NOW that the Treasury has scraped a little gold together there are people in Europe who want it, and they are getting it as fast as they call for it."  
—The News, Providence.

"IF China's war indemnity to Japan is paid in gold, it will come out of the United States Treasury, by way of merry, merry England."  
—The Constitution, Atlanta.

"THE bond-cocktail plan is like all similar devices for recouping—the patient must keep having another."  
—The Globe, Boston.

"THE Lexow Committee has made December the hottest month in the year for the police force."  
—The Recorder, New York.

"THERE is no denying that the New York police force has been the means of discovering a tremendous amount of rascality."  
—The Star, Washington.

"HOW would it do for Goff to be employed to examine the men who are understood to have bought their way into Congress? Creeden's \$15,000 purchase would be nowhere in comparison with the revelations from such questionings."  
—The Leader, Wilkesbarre.

"WELL, did you vote?" said Mrs. Spundkins to her daughter, as the latter removed her wraps on election day in 1920. "Why, mamma, I'll tell you how it was," replied the earnest young girl. "A real nice young man—I suppose he was one of the election officers—came up and asked what ticket I was going to vote, and when I told him, he said, 'But surely you are not old enough yet to cast a ballot, miss.' So what could I do but smile sweetly at the compliment and come away?"  
—Harper's Bazar, New York.



THE SOLON GETTING READY FOR THE APPROACHING SESSION OF THE LEGISLATURE.

—The Minneapolis Journal.



## LETTERS AND ART.

## ROBERT LOUIS STEVENSON.

WHEN, on the morning of the 17th instant, we saw the announcement of the death of Stevenson at his far-off Samoan home, where the love, good will, and best wishes of the civilized world had followed him, these lines from Milton came to mind:

Lycidas is dead, dead ere his prime,  
Young Lycidas, and hath not left his peer.  
Who would not sing for Lycidas? He knew  
Himself to sing, and build the lofty rhyme.

Seldom has the death of a young author been so universally deplored. The critics differ in their estimate of the literary value of his work, but his stories as well as his poems have reached the

popular heart, and therein has his name been enshrined.

A despatch from Auckland to *The Star*, London, gave the following brief details:

"On the evening of December 3, Mr. Stevenson remarked to his wife that he felt a strange pain in his head. Almost immediately afterward he fell back senseless and never regained consciousness. He died two hours later. The cause of his death was paralysis of the brain, accompanied by collapse of



ROBERT LOUIS STEVENSON.

the lungs. He was buried on December 4.

"An obelisk will be erected over his grave, which from its great height on Pala Hill will be a conspicuous landmark from the sea. Mr. Stevenson had recently suffered from exhaustion of the brain, and had been haunted by the fear that his popularity was on the wane."

*The Tribune* has interviewed a number of eminent litterateurs concerning the writings of Stevenson, and the opinions thus obtained are of sufficient importance to be reproduced.

Mr. Stedman said: "I can't think of a more deplorable loss to English imaginative literature just now. Some of Stevenson's work seems to me to be written in purer English than that of any other modern novelist. 'Kidnapped,' for instance, will be a classic, if it is not already. It is breezy, with romantic invention and the perfection of style, if style is that which is absolutely suited to the author's purpose. Stevenson always shows real imagination, and in fancy no one of late has equaled his minor extravagances. For myself, I care less for his 'Jekyll and Hyde' vein, although it has taken so remarkably with the public. But 'Treasure Island,' I confess that I've read once a year since it was published, with all the zest of a boy. Stevenson made his first hit in London by his 'Travels with a Donkey in the Cevennes.' I met him in England at that time—1879, I believe—and was charmed with him. We had a talk in the coffee-room of a club lasting the greater part of an afternoon. But it was not until his 'New Arabian Nights' appeared that I discovered that my young Scotsman was the author of the two best and most poetic short tales of that decade. I mean 'A Night with Villon' and 'At the Sieur Maletroit's Door.' Stevenson was a true poet as well, within the limits he adopted. Only a few weeks ago I had a letter from him, written at Samoa, telling me that he should ask Sidney Colvin to send me the proof-sheets for a recent volume of verse."

Mr. Gilder, of *The Century*, said: "I knew him, and have spent delightful and memorable hours with him in this city; but others knew him much more intimately. His death is an irreparable loss to literature. He was one of the very few living great masters of literary expression, and he had an imagination

of a unique and powerful sort. His style was so poignant and admirable that there is no telling how long its effects may last."

Mr. Howells said: "My first acquaintance with Stevenson began some years ago, when I was Editor of *The Atlantic Monthly*. He sent some poems which I liked and accepted on the spot. I have always admired Stevenson's verse, and his essays I have read with great pleasure. His stories are not my idea, as perhaps you know, of what fiction ought to be. But, of course, I recognize that he was one of the great writers of the day."

"If it is not too personal," added Mr. Howells, "I should like to say that some years ago, when I was getting some pretty hard raps on all sides, Stevenson came out and spoke a good word for me. I appreciated it the more since I knew how many worlds apart we were. It was characteristic of the man."

Ripley Hitchcock said: "Every one who cares for literature will feel Mr. Stevenson's death as a personal loss. It is true of him, as of others who have written much, that his work was uneven, but I think the consensus of opinion would give Stevenson and Kipling the first places among the story-writers of the day. Every one is familiar with his originality of conception and distinction of style. There may be different opinions regarding the rank of various books and also regarding the effect of his life in the South Seas, but this sad news is so fresh that there is nothing to be said save that a writer has gone who possessed what deserved to be called genius, and the world is poorer for his loss."

Stevenson's full name was Robert Louis Balfour Stevenson, but the Balfour he had ceased to use. He was born in Edinburgh, Scotland, November 13, 1850, and was the son of Thomas Stevenson, who attained eminence as a constructor of lighthouses. Robert Louis was always proud of his Scotch origin. He has said that "to be born a Scotchman is the happiest lot on Earth," but that it is "a privilege one must pay for." "You have to learn," he said, "the paraphrases and the Shorter Catechism; you generally take to drink; your youth, so far as I can find out, is a time of louder war against society, of more outcry and tears and turmoil than if you were born, for instance, in England. But, somehow, life is warmer and closer, the hearth burns more redly, the lights of home shine softer on the rainy street, the very names endeared in verse and music cling nearer round our hearts."

Stevenson's marriage was a romantic one. The morality of it we leave to other commentators. *The Times*, New York, gives the facts as follows:

"Lloyd Osbourne, who assisted him in writing two of his stories, was the son of his wife by a former marriage, and when Mrs. Osbourne became Mrs. Stevenson she was recently divorced from her husband, Samuel C. Osbourne. She and Osbourne had been married in Indiana in 1858. Her maiden name was Vandergrift, and in 1861 the couple, with a son and daughter, started for Arizona with a few thousand dollars they had saved. Mr. Osbourne put his money in a mine, for which a few months later \$100,000 was offered. Osbourne wished to sell, but his partner did not. They held on, and six months later the mine would not fetch a dollar."

"Osbourne, with his family, then went to San Francisco, and he so prospered as a court reporter that he sent his wife to Europe to educate the children. In Paris Mrs. Osbourne, in 1883, met Stevenson, and fell in love with him. Returning to San Francisco she obtained a divorce, and arrangements were at once made for her marriage with Stevenson. Osbourne was invited to the wedding and accepted. On the appointed day he presented himself in faultless attire with a lady on his arm, whom he introduced as Mrs. Osbourne. To this lady Osbourne had been quietly married as soon as the divorce was granted. Some newspaper stories have declared that the divorce broke Osbourne's heart, but his prompt second marriage hardly bears out the story. In any event, it is known that as Mr. and Mrs. Stevenson took up their abode in Samoa, so Mr. and Mrs. Osbourne took up theirs in Australia. Each couple went to a land where all the old ties might be forgotten."

FINGLE:—"There goes a woman with a history." Fingle:—"That female who just left your office? How do you know?" Fingle:—"She worked for an hour trying to sell it to me."—*Buffalo Courier*.

## AN ENGLISH CRITICISM OF R. W. GILDER.

THE LITERARY DIGEST recently on its own account reviewed Mr. Gilder's new book of poems. Considering the fact that American critics and editors generally have given his successive publications marked approval, it is somewhat strange how much emphatic adverse opinion as to the merit of his poetical work one hears in a conversational way; and it is more puzzling still that the social controversy as to his genius and power has never reached print. English critics have almost uniformly treated Mr. Gilder's work with gravity and favor. It is gratifying to find in *The Saturday Review*, London, a very full reflection of our own valuation of his poems, as expressed in THE LITERARY DIGEST of December 8, and we quote with pleasure the following critical opinions of that journal:

"The disappearance of the leading names from the literature of each country brings into prominence those which attracted less



notice when the veterans were still alive. In American poetry, the death of a whole school of famous old men—but one of whom survives—has had the effect of clearing the stage for those who have now arrived at middle life, those who until lately have been persistently overshadowed by the fame of Longfellow, Emerson, Lowell, and Whittier. We look onward and see not many who can be conceived of as filling the place of those Boston Old Masters. Between them and their juniors comes Mr. Aldrich, long a favorite in his own country, but not highly appreciated by English criticism. And then, among American poets under the age of fifty-five, who is there? We believe that no one who is acquainted with the facts will doubt that the most accomplished and honorable

name among men below this limit of age is that of Mr. Gilder.

"Nearly twenty years have elapsed since, in his volume called 'The New Day,' Mr. Gilder came forward as a frank adherent of what was then called the Pre-Raphaelite camp. The poems which he published then, chiefly sonnets and canzonets, were remarkable for their Italian character. The young poet, it was evident, had been influenced by Petrarch. 'The New Day' was the most Petrarchian volume that America had, or since has, produced; but Mr. Gilder had come to Petrarch through Rossetti. Great delicacy of workmanship, passion for physical and abstract beauty, a certain languor in presence of those purely modern problems which disconcert poetry even more in America than with ourselves—these qualities were present in Mr. Gilder's earliest verses, and now that he publishes a fifth volume they are manifest still. He has now lost all trace of the Rossetti mannerism; he has forced himself, in a curious way, which we shall presently analyze, to recognize the detail of modern life, but we find him radically unchanged. He is true to the tradition of the Seventies; he is an artist, a Parnassian if you will, and the most interesting specimen of that type which has been seen in American letters.

"There is little of the old Petrarchian note left in Mr. Gilder's verse. If any deceased poets have now an influence over him, they are Shelley in his dithyrambic movements, and Emerson in his lyrics. The poem which gives name to the new collection is a treatment of the theme which most deeply affects the thinking and feeling American of middle age to-day."

It will be remembered that THE LITERARY DIGEST did not unqualifiedly praise Mr. Gilder's work. Our exceptions were few, among them being "The Great Remembrance," a poem read by

the author at a reunion of the Army of the Potomac. While *The Saturday Review* characterizes this poem as "a dignified and touching *canzone*," it takes slight exception to it, as follows:

"It is seldom that Mr. Gilder's carefully trained instinct for form betrays him, and we would not say that it has done so in the present instance; he would point us to the *Trionfi* of his old favorite and master. But we could have wished that he had stuck courageously to the Dryden form—the heroic couplet, with an occasional alexandrine—which seems to be in his thought, instead of being constantly seduced away by the meandering system of rhymes, the prosody of 'Lycidas.'"

Mr. Gilder has not received in America any more flattering commendation than is contained in these closing words of *The Saturday Review's* critique:

"The main thing is the attitude of the poet, not the incident which calls forth the emotion. Out of the most modern, the most commonplace, objects, 'create he can forms more real than living man.' This, it appears to us, has now become the most potent characteristic of Mr. Gilder's poetry—its power of dealing with everyday things in a manner natural and yet polished and distinguished. A new capacity for poetry in the future is suggested by a writer who can treat modern American life with a sculpturesque grace."

## NAPOLEON'S DISAPPOINTED LITERARY ASPIRATIONS.

IT is in a new light that Napoleon is presented by the opening chapters of William M. Sloane's biography of the great Corsican—a light new at least to most of the world. As a youth, the passion for literary fame seems to have seized him with a strong hold and to have found vent in numerous manuscripts saturated with romanticism and abounding with faults of diction. Mr. Sloane (*Century*, December) tells of the influence which Rousseau exercised upon the young Napoleon, and of the avidity with which he devoured not only the works of Rousseau, but those of Voltaire, Necker, Adam Smith, Abbé Raynal, and others. In fact his reading became singularly omnivorous, though he was not yet twenty. His biographer says:

"The consuming zeal for studies on the part of this incomprehensible youth is probably unparalleled. Having read Plutarch in his childhood, he now devoured Herodotus, Strabo, and Diodorus; China, Arabia, and the Indies dazzled his imagination, and what he could lay hands upon concerning the East was soon assimilated. England and Germany next engaged his attention, and toward the close of his studies he became ardent in examining the minutest details of French history. It was, moreover, the science of history, and not its literature, which occupied him—dry details of revenue, resources, and institutions; the Sorbonne, the bull Unigenitus, and Church history in general; the character of peoples, the origin of institutions, the philosophy of legislation—all these he studied, and, if the character of his notes is trustworthy, with some thoroughness. He also found time to read the masterpieces of French literature, and the great critical judgments which had been passed upon them."

Even before this, at the age of seventeen, he wrote to Abbé Raynal, who was doing much to popularize Rousseau's philosophy, as follows:

"Not yet eighteen, I am a writer: it is the age when we must learn. Will my boldness subject me to your raillery? No; I am sure. If indulgence be a mark of true genius, you should have much indulgence. I enclose chapters one and two of a history of Corsica, with an outline of the rest. If you approve, I will go on; if you advise me to stop, I will go no further."

The Abbé advised him to stop and complete his researches before writing any more chapters. Already Napoleon had embarked in military life, being a lieutenant, but his military duties were not engrossing nor to his taste. Here is the brief review given of his condition at the age of nineteen:

"An ardent republican and revolutionary, he was tied by the



strongest bonds to the most despotic monarchy in Europe. A patriotic Corsican, he was the servant of his country's oppressor. Conscious of great ability, he was seeking an outlet in the pursuit of literature, a line of work entirely unsuited to his powers. The head and support of a large family, he was almost penniless; if he should follow his convictions, he and they might be altogether so. In the period of choice and requiring room for experiment, he saw himself doomed to a fixed, inglorious career and caged in a framework of unpropitious circumstance. Whatever the moral obliquity in his feeble expedients, there is the pathos of human limitations in their character."

He persisted in his work on the history of Corsica and finished it, despite the harassing cares which the poverty of his family placed upon his young shoulders. Here is a description of the book as drawn by Mr. Sloane:

"The book is of moderate size, and of moderate merit. It is in the form of letters addressed to the Abbé Raynal; its contents display little research and no scholarship. The style is intended to be popular, and is dramatic rather than narrative. There is displayed, as everywhere in these early writings, an intense hatred of France, a glowing affection for Corsica and her heroes. A word or two of quotation will sufficiently characterize the whole work. Having outlined in perhaps the most powerful chapter the career of Sampiero, and sketched his diplomatic failures at all the European courts except that of Constantinople, where at last he had secured sympathy and was promised aid, the author depicts the patriot's sudden recall by the news of his wife's treachery. Confronting his guilty spouse, deaf to every plea for pity, hardened against the tender caresses of his children, the Corsican hero utters judgment. 'Madame,' he sternly says, 'in the face of crime and disgrace, there is no other resort but death.' Vannina at first falls unconscious, but, regaining her senses, she recalls the memory of her earlier virtue, and, facing her fate, begs as a last favor that no base executioner shall lay his soiled hands on the wife of Sampiero, but that he himself shall execute the sentence. Vannina's behavior moves her husband, but does not touch his heart. 'The pity and tenderness,' says Bonaparte, 'which she should have awakened, found a soul thenceforward closed to the power of sentiment. Vannina died. She died by the hands of Sampiero.'

"Neither the publishers of Valence, nor those of Dôle, nor those of Auxonne, would accept the work. At Paris one was finally found who would take a half risk. The author, disillusioned but sanguine, was on the point of accepting the proposition, and was occupied with considering ways and means, when the Bishop of Sens [to whom the work was dedicated] was suddenly disgraced. The manuscript was immediately copied and revised, with the result, probably, of making its tone more intensely Corsican; for it was now to be dedicated to Paoli. The literary aspirant must have foreseen the coming crash, and must have felt that the exile was to be again the liberator, and perhaps the master, of his native land. At any rate, he abandoned the idea of immediate publication, possibly in the dawning hope that as Paoli's lieutenant he could make Corsican history better than he could write it. It is this copy which has been preserved; the original was probably destroyed."

Paoli, however, followed the example of the Abbé Raynal and advised the young author to make deeper researches before publishing his book, telling him that he was "too young to write history." But Napoleon was not too young to feel the pangs of hunger, and his next step was taken to avert these pangs. The narrative continues:

"Bonaparte's last shift in the treatment of his book was most undignified and petty. With the unprincipled resentment of despair, in want of money, not of advice, he entirely remodeled it for the third time, its chapters being now put as fragmentary traditions into the mouth of a Corsican mountaineer. In this form it was dedicated to Necker, the famous Swiss, who as French Minister of Finance was vainly struggling with the problem of how to distribute taxation equally, and to collect from the privileged classes their share. A copy was first sent to a former teacher for criticism. His judgment was most unfavorable, both as to expression and style. In particular, attention was called to the absurdity of putting his own metaphysical generalizations and captious criticism of French royalty into the mouth of a

peasant mountaineer. Before the correspondence ended, Napoleon's student life was over. Necker had fled, the French Revolution was rushing on with ever-increasing speed, and the young adventurer, despairing of success as a writer, seized the proffered opening to become a man of action."

### GLADSTONE'S HORACE AGAIN.

CRITICAL journals are still discussing the merits of Mr. Gladstone's translation of the Odes of Horace. A consensus of opinion, among those who do not flatly condemn the work, is to the effect that Mr. Gladstone has done very well, but not that he has done anything remarkably fine. We quote the following from *The Academy*, London:

"What rank does this translation take in comparison with other versions more or less familiar? This is the question which it is inevitable to ask, and extremely difficult to answer: men differ far more about Horatian translators than about Horace. Perhaps one may take a fragment, typical of Horace in his pathetic mood, and see how it fares in Mr. Gladstone's hands, and then adduce one or two competitive versions, and leave readers of *The Academy* to judge. Let us hear three stanzas ('*Impudens liqui—ledere collum*') of Europa's lament (Od. III., xxiii., ll. 49-60). Mr. Gladstone renders thus:

"Unshamed our household gods I fled,  
Unshamed live on. Ye powers above  
That hear me, would my steps were led  
Where lions rove!

"These comely cheeks ere leanness kill,  
Ere youth's sweet sap shall drain away,  
So let me sink, in beauty still  
The tiger's prey.

"Why loth to die? behold this ash;  
Polluted child, thou needest but take'  
(Thus cries my sire) 'that pendent sash  
Thy neck to break.'"

Let the next be Conington's:

"Shameless I left my father's home;  
Shameless I cheat the expectant grave;  
O heaven, that naked I might roam  
In lions' cave!

"Now, ere decaying bloom devour  
Or thin the richness of my blood,  
Fain would I fall in youth's first flower,  
The tiger's food.

"Hark! 'tis my father—'Worthless one!  
What, yet alive? the oak is nigh.  
'Twas well you kept your maiden zone,  
The noose to tie.'"

Lastly, let us hear Mr. Rutherford Clark, in a slightly different meter:

"Shameless I left my father's home,  
Shameless I dally with my doom.  
Hear, Heaven, and let me naked roam  
Where ravening lions lie:

"Ere sickness seize the damask cheek  
And the young victim pine and peak,  
Let this bad loveliness go seek  
The tiger, ere it fly.

"Vile girl, I hear my father groan,  
'Why thus unready to atone?  
Knot on yon ash thy maiden zone—  
That trusty zone—and die.'"

There is, perhaps, more strength about Mr. Gladstone's, but it is deficient in charm; Conington and Mr. Clark both come nearer to the expression of a 'lyric cry': neither has missed the tragic, yet truly Horatian, touch of *zona bene te secuta*, which dwindles, in Mr. Gladstone's version, to 'that pendent sash'—not a fortunate phrase. I am convinced that for flaws of this sort the theory of compression has been largely responsible: the hand has been so much curbed that the strength of Horace's poetry is apt to remain while the beauty disappears."

MISS HARRIET MONROE received more probably for her Columbian Ode than has ever been paid for so short a poem before; \$1,000 to begin with, from the managers of the Columbian Exposition, and \$5,000 from a New York newspaper for its infringement of copyright in printing the poem before its official use.

## WHERE DOES LONGFELLOW RANK?

THIS seems to be still an unsettled question, if we may judge by the frequent allusion to and discussion of the dead poet's true position in literature. Mr. George Holme revives the subject in the December number of *Munsey's Magazine*, where, after expressing his opinion that Longfellow "cannot be classed with Tennyson or Browning," because "he had none of their high ideality or dramatic power;" that "he wrote nothing which did not contain the charm of poetry, but it was the song of the commonplace and conventional;" that "he always suggested somebody else," etc., the writer continues:

"He was never an American poet in the truest sense, even when he was writing upon American subjects. We think of him as the poet of the Pilgrims, and the story of the *Mayflower* will always come back to us through his presentation; but even here he writes with a foreign education molding his expressions, and tells of the grim trials of his forebears, with more thought of 'what will be thought of it over the ocean,' as a poem, than of singing to the American people the song of their nation's birth.

"The valuation which was given to Longfellow's poetry by his contemporaries is most interesting. To the Craigie house in Cambridge, where he lived, came almost every man in America who was known to letters. Charles Sumner, who was one of Longfellow's oldest and most devoted friends, had a most extravagant opinion of the poet. He often told that the 'Psalm of Life' had saved one man he knew from suicide. The fellow was in the depths of misery when he came upon the unsigned poem in a scrap of newspaper. Hawthorne valued Longfellow; but then Hawthorne was not a critic, but a genius who saw everything through the mist of his own imagination.

"But there was another genius who called upon the public to witness his prophecy that there would be no future for Longfellow's poetry. This was the young Edgar Allan Poe, then the critic of *The Gentleman's Magazine*. He wrote of 'Hyperion':

"Works like this of Professor Longfellow are the triumphs of Tom o' Bedlam and the grief of all true criticism. They are patent in unsettling the popular faith in art. That such things succeed at all is attributable to the fact that there exist men of genius who indite them; that men of genius ever indite them is attributable to the fact that they are the most indolent of human beings. To the writers of these things we say: All ethics lie, and all history lies, or the world shall forget ye and your works. We dismiss "Hyperion" in brief. We grant him high qualities, but deny him the future. Without design, without shape, without beginning, middle, or end, what earthly object has his book accomplished?"

"Margaret Fuller joined with Poe in his opinion. She wrote criticisms—undoubtedly without jealousy or malice—for *The Tribune*, in which she said:

"We must confess to a coolness toward Mr. Longfellow in consequence of the exaggerated praises that have been bestowed upon him. When we see a person of moderate powers receive honors which should be reserved for the highest, we feel something like assailing him, and taking from him the crown which should be reserved for grander brows. It may be that the management of his publishers has raised him to a place above one he would wish to claim. We the more readily believe this of Mr. Longfellow, as one so sensible to the beauties of other writers, and so largely indebted to them, must know his comparative rank better than his readers have known it."

"After all, what did his friends claim for him beyond the fact that he touched the heart of humanity? Was not that sufficient? He aimed to reach the feelings of men and women, and he succeeded. He has probably been more read than any poet except the Psalmist. And in spite of the caustic predictions of Poe, his literary immortality is assured as one who sang not for a class but for all his fellow men."

WHEN Rubinstein was told that Dvorak thought that the negro melodies of this country might prove a good foundation for a national school of music in America, he is reported to have said: "I remember reading in a book, which made the Hungarians angry, that the Hungarian music was that of the gipsies. Dvorak's theory is very difficult to prove. At the same time it is quite possible. American musicians have not worked in the line of negro melodies, but entirely in the European style. If there is a great literature of negro melodies, Dvorak's idea is possible, but I think it fantastic. In South America such an idea might 'take,' but in the North, European music is too far advanced."

## A GERMAN OPINION OF HOLMES.

FEW Americans have been more popular on the other side of the Atlantic than Dr. Oliver Wendell Holmes. There is scarcely a paper of note in Europe that did not accompany the notice of his death with some kindly obituary, while many publications gave elaborate reviews of his works. One of the best criticisms on Dr. Holmes, from a literary point of view, is Ernest Heilborn's, in the *Nation*, Berlin. He does not regard Dr. Holmes as a world-mover, but thinks that no more pleasing *causeur* ever existed. He says:

"In Oliver Wendell Holmes American society found its Addison. As soon as in his country an intellectual aristocracy had formed itself, as soon as a longing for greater depth and refinement became noticeable, Oliver Wendell Holmes appeared upon the scene. He had the gift to see commonplace things as if nobody had beheld them before him. True, he also spoke of more important things, of Darwinism, of religion, of the action of the human mind, but he loved best to chat about nothings. . . . He was so truly original. He saw the world so differently from others—not different from what it really is, but he knew better how to express what he saw. To chat was in his opinion the most important, the most noble, most difficult art. . . . Nothing human was unknown to him. In his own room he needed a soft carpet, a Raphael to decorate the walls, and rare books upon the shelves. But he was just as much in touch with the inhabitants of the basement or the discharged criminal. He remained the same among all surroundings, but he also fitted into all surroundings. He studied sin as he would study a disease. Drunkenness appeared to him rather as a misfortune than a vice, and often as a punishment for those addleheads who find no object in life. And criminals? Hang them, if society requires it. Only do not forget that often the criminal's misfortune is detested rather than his misdeeds. He was a man with men in Goethe's way, aristocratic and warm-hearted, full of harmony in his composition and in the way he used his powers. In one respect he differed much from Addison; he did not wish to be the 'Spectator' and teacher of his race only; he wished to be a sympathetic friend. His pity was greater than his sarcasm. Addison would smile at the picture of a delicate lady in poor circumstances. To Holmes she would appear as a painting that had fallen from its gilded frame. It would be best to return it to that frame!

"Holmes was not a moralist. He gave too much and asked too little. He would regret the absence of only one trait in those with whom he came into contact—the ability to become enthusiastic over something. His was not a radical nature. He could not forget the prayer he had said at his mother's knee, and therefore religion was ever dear to him. He was, perhaps, too mature to be a Radical. But he never mistook the Church for religion, and he, a Protestant, once remarked that the Catholic knew better how to die.

"Like Addison, he seldom mentioned politics. Only once he related a dream in which he had been transported to the planet Saturn—where all the inhabitants are clothed alike, where Communism rules to the fullest extent, and people have only one amusement—that of committing suicide. And his pity also had its limits from an economical point of view. 'One cannot,' he said, 'set one's house afire even to warm the hands of the widows and the fatherless.' Holmes had, no doubt, a mission to fulfil, but he was truly human."

## NOTES.

ROBERT BUCHANAN, the author and poet, who failed for \$75,000 not long ago, has just been discharged by the bankruptcy court on condition that he pay half of all he earns above \$4,500 a year toward satisfying his creditors, till they shall have recovered 37 cents on the dollar. His lawyer tried to free him from the obligation, but the Judge held that an author who had earned \$7,500 a year by his writings might be expected to continue to do so, and should do something for his creditors.

FOR the past fifteen years, at regular intervals of three months, it is said, Alphonse Daudet has received a note, written in pencil, from the same man, who is evidently a great traveler, for his letters bear all the stamps of the world. He informs the great novelist that he trains animals to pronounce his world-famed name, and then lets them go.

JULIAN RALPH says that in Yokohama he found the steps of his hotel littered with "Trilby" circulars, and the reading public in that city not less in love with the book than are its readers in all parts of America and England. In Shanghai it was the same story: applications for the next available copy of "Trilby" at the libraries resembling petitions, in the number of signatures attached.



## SCIENCE.

DEPARTMENT EDITOR, - - - ARTHUR E. BOSTWICK, PH.D.

## MENTAL PROCESSES OF LIGHTNING CALCULATORS.

WE often learn more from extreme or abnormal cases than from ordinary ones, hence it is that an interesting light is thrown upon mental processes by a study of the so-called lightning calculators or arithmetical phenomena. These persons are often of less than average general intelligence; sometimes they possess their wonderful powers only in youth and lose them in adult life; hence most of them are unable adequately to explain in detail how they reach their results. But we know enough now to be able to say that there is nothing miraculous about their performances; they merely possess wonderful memories, and great skill in inventing ingenious labor-saving "cross-cuts" in combining figures. A further inquiry into the methods of these men has been made by the great French psychologist, Alfred Binet, whose results, detailed in a recent work on the subject, are reviewed in *Nature*, London, November 22, by the English authority, Francis Galton, who adds a description of some interesting experiments of his own. Binet's investigations were made largely upon two living calculators—Inaudi, a Piedmontese, and Diamandi, a Greek. These two represent the two chief types of calculators, the former doing his mental sums wholly by the aid of imagined sounds; the latter by the aid of imagined figures. That is, Inaudi thinks of a number as a spoken word, as *one*, *two*, or *ten*; Diamandi thinks of it as a visible figure, as 1, 2, or 10. The latter seems to be an example of the common type of mental calculators, calculation with the auditory imagination being extremely rare.

Binet succeeds in disproving the assertion that visual memory, such as that of a calculator, is as complete as actual vision. To quote the review:

"Thus, if a small square table of twenty-five figures, five figures in breadth and five in height, is shown to and learned by Diamandi, he takes only nine seconds to repeat them in successive lines, but if he is asked to repeat them in the order of the columns, he is just four times as long in doing so, whether the columns are mentally read from their tops downward or from their bottoms upward. He does not, therefore, read the figures as if they were written on a mental blackboard, which could be done as easily in any one direction as in any other, but he has, in some obscure way, to puzzle the figures out."

There is at present no direct evidence that calculators have inherited their gifts, except in a few instances, of which the celebrated Bidder family of England is the most conspicuous. But Galton thinks this may be only apparent, as a man may have a genius for calculating and yet never find it out. He says:

"Two mental peculiarities have to concur in the making of a calculating boy; the one is a special capacity for mental calculation, and the other is a passion to exercise it. Both of these peculiarities are rare, and they are not necessarily coordinated, therefore the chance of their concurrence in full force may be very small indeed. I have, however, reason to suppose that the capacity for mental calculation is more common than is usually believed, but that it does not commonly interest its possessor, and may be even unknown and consequently neglected by him. Trustworthy evidence for or against its hereditary transmission could hardly be obtained under these conditions."

The distinction discovered by Binet between calculation by the visual and auditive imaginations suggested to Galton a line of experiments to find out whether any other sense might not be made the vehicle of calculation. His account of his experiments on the sense of smell is as follows:

"I tried to perform mental arithmetic, not by imaginary visual symbols or by imaginary sounds, but by imaginary smells. As

sums are set in the two former cases, either in really visible symbols or in really audible sounds, while the results are reached through imaginary ones, so in my experiments the sums were set in real odors, and were worked out through imaginary odors. . . . My apparatus consisted of glass-tubes each drawn to a nozzle at one end like a short syringe. One end of a piece of India-rubber tube, six or eight inches long, was pushed tightly over the other end of the glass. A different odorous substance, camphor, carbolic acid, gasolin, etc., was inserted and packed lightly with cotton wool in the several tubes, whose ends were afterward tied up. On grasping one of these tubes tightly, at the moment when its nozzle was brought to the nostril, a whiff of its peculiar odor was ejected and simultaneously sniffed up. . . . I thus possessed a set of tubes that could be used *smellingly*, in the same way as the symbols 1, 2, 3, etc., are used visually, or the words *one*, *two*, *three*, etc., are used audibly. This is not the place to enter into further details. I only desire to emphasize one fact which the experiment taught me, namely, the existence of a large substratum of mental work that my power of introspection failed to penetrate. I progressed far enough to be able to add or subtract small sums, so that a 1 followed by a 2, both in smell-language, associated themselves at once with the imaginary sniff of a 3, whenever I was engaged in addition, or with that of a 1 when I was engaged in subtraction. But the two associations of 3 and 1 never clashed; they were mutually exclusive. I could not ascertain through introspection what was the nature of the *attitude of mind* which determined whether the association was to be the one needed for addition or for subtraction, for division or for multiplication. Another point that strongly impressed me was the enormous amount of labor that must have been gone through by all of us in thoroughly learning the multiplication-table. I made a very few similar experiments with the gustatory or taste imagination, but they were troublesome, and I did not follow them up."

## READING ANCIENT MANUSCRIPTS BY PHOTOGRAPHY.

IT is well known that many of the most interesting and important ancient texts have been recovered from what are known to archeologists as palimpsests; that is, from parchments which had been used the second time by medieval writers, generally monks, the ancient characters having been erased for the purpose. As the erasure never can be perfect, the old texts can often be read by one or another ingenious expedient. Photography has long been employed as an aid, the old writing, though invisible to the eye, having affected the actinic power of the paper sufficiently to appear feebly in a photograph, together with the more recent characters. A process recently devised by Pringsheim and Gradowitz, at Berlin, goes still further and causes the modern writing to disappear entirely, leaving only the ancient characters on the photograph. We give below an account of their process, translated from *La Nature*, Paris, December 1:

"To restore the ancient writing, two photographic negatives are first made from the manuscript; these, which we shall call *A* and *B*, must absolutely correspond in dimensions, but their intensity is very different; the first is strong and shows only traces of the ancient writing; the second, on the contrary, is as uniform as possible, and makes the two writings appear of the same intensity. A positive *B'* is then made from the negative *B* and is applied to *A* in such manner that they correspond exactly. If the proper degree of intensity has been given to the photographs, the ancient writing will appear alone when the two are viewed by transmitted light. The background of the parchment, being dark on the negative *A* and light on the positive *B'*, takes a medium shape; it is the same with the more recent writing, for a similar reason. As for the ancient writing, it is dark both on the negative *A* and on the positive *B'*, and hence appears doubly dark when they are viewed together; it thus appears alone in black on a gray ground. From the combination, a photograph may be taken, which will show only the ancient writing.

"The difficulty in the execution of the process resides not so much in the obtaining of exact shades as in the perfect geomet-

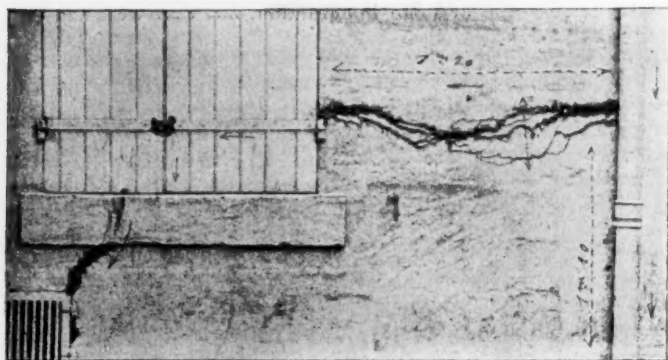
rical equality that must be given to the photographs, which makes the most minute care necessary.

"The authors have obtained the desired shades by making use, for the first negative, of plates of eosin, exposed for a long time under yellow glass, while the negative *B* was produced on a gelatin-bromid plate developed with an excess of bromid so as to obtain a sufficient intensity. The object here is only to get a very different intensity without the necessity of regulating it exactly. By trial, the desired intensity is given to the positive *B'*. The ingenious process that we have described is evidently not limited to manuscripts, but may be applied to any case in which it is desired to obtain with great intensity a given detail of an image, no matter how small and how feeble it may be."

### LIGHTNING PAINTED BY ITSELF.

**F**EW natural phenomena are so difficult to observe as lightning. The distant flash is now often recorded by photography, but what happens in the immediate vicinity of a destructive discharge is not generally known. If there are witnesses, they are dazzled and deafened, and their impressions are often confused in the highest degree. Hence, scientific men are always glad when a discharge leaves its tracks behind it, and it is rare that discharges are so clearly left as in a case described and illustrated in *Cosmos*, Paris, November 17, whose account we translate below.

"On this date [July 22, 1894] a series of thunder-storms occurred in the west of France, in Belgium, and even in Holland. About 11 o'clock at night one of these was raging over the city of Niort,



TRACES LEFT BY LIGHTNING ON A HOUSE AT NIORT, FRANCE.

when a violent clap of thunder was heard, and the lightning struck the house No. 60 Avenue de Paris. The electric fluid first struck the chimney, then, descending along the roof, it tore off and threw to the ground a great number of tiles. This done, it reached the water-pipe and followed it till within about five feet of the ground. At this point the phenomenon changed all at once: the electrical discharge left the pipe, jumped across to the iron hinge of a window-shutter, reached the fastening, on which there are traces of fusion, and then descended to the grating that protected a cellar-window.

"To make its path incontestible it left its trace on the wall, which had been recently painted a yellowish white. The next day, it was seen that the track of the electricity over the paint had turned brown, as the photograph shows.

"We are, then, in the presence of a positive and undeniable record. It remains to explain the facts.

"M. Sieur, professor at the College of Niort, to whose courtesy we owe this interesting photograph, thinks that the fluid, finding in the water-pipe an insufficient outlet to the ground, divided, and that one part directed itself toward the hinges of the shutter in order to reach the ground by the cellar. This explanation, though it seems very natural, is not in our opinion the most probable. The grating, the hinges, and the fastenings of the shutter form a mass of metal large enough to assume by induction a high electric potential. The difference of potential between the hinge and the water-pipe at the moment of the lightning-stroke would have been sufficient to overcome the resistance of the intervening space; the positive and negative electricities united across this space, producing a discharge. It is, in fact, very remarkable

that the design of the spark, as the photograph shows it, changes in character about the middle of the surface of masonry.

"At the right the lightning is very much divided, and its different threads diverge sufficiently to occupy a breadth of about 20 centimeters [about 7 inches]. At the left, on the contrary, the bundle is compressed; the maximum spread is scarcely 10 centimeters, and it must be remarked that in all this part of its path, as far as the ground, the spark is condensed.

"Whether our explanation be true or not, the fact is very interesting, and it is fortunate for science that there was found on the spot an intelligent man, thanks to whom specialists have an accurate record to study."

Our readers will be interested to compare with these explanations the extracts from Prof. Oliver Lodge's article, printed in *THE LITERARY DIGEST* for October 27. These throw much light on the present case, and it is probably that the English physicist would have something interesting to say about it. The fact that when lightning strikes, furious electrical surgings are set up in neighboring conductors, and that sparks may fly off from these even to quite insulated conductors near by, receives a very striking confirmation in the present photographic record."

### HAS MARS AN ATMOSPHERE?

**I**T is quite evident that the question whether the planet Mars has or has not an atmosphere has an important relation to many of the other mooted questions about that interesting body, especially that of its habitability. In *Astronomy and Astrophysics*, November, Prof. W. W. Campbell details the results of spectroscopic observations at Lick Observatory, and concludes from them that Mars has little or no atmosphere. The way in which the spectroscope is made to give evidence in the matter is as follows. Viewed through this instrument, as is well known, a flame or other bright body appears spread out into a band exhibiting the rainbow colors. If translucent substances, especially liquids or vapors, intervene, this band will be crossed by dark lines or fringes, showing that some light has been absorbed. But the light that comes from Mars is reflected sunlight, and in passing from the Sun to the Earth, passes through the Sun's atmosphere and the Earth's as well as that of Mars, if it has any. How shall we tell whether the dark absorption lines belong to the Sun, to Mars, or to the Earth?

The author points out that the effects of the solar and terrestrial atmospheres may be eliminated by comparison with that of the Moon, which has no appreciable atmosphere. He says:

"If we compare the spectra of Mars and the Moon when these bodies are at the same altitude above the horizon—that is, when their light traverses the same thickness of terrestrial atmosphere,—and find that they differ in any respect, however slight, such difference must be caused by an atmosphere on Mars. If no difference is found to exist, then the spectroscope affords no evidence of such an atmosphere."

The problem had been attacked before by eminent observers, but it is believed that the circumstances at Lick Observatory, such as improved apparatus, the size of the great telescope, the altitude, the dry air, and the southern location, besides the great increase in our knowledge of the spectrum of the Earth's atmosphere in recent years, give these observations peculiar value. As the final results of the observations, Professor Campbell gives the following:

"*First.*—The spectra of Mars and our Moon, observed under favorable and identical circumstances, seem to be identical in every respect. The *atmospheric* and *aqueous vapor* bands which were observed in both spectra appear to be produced wholly by the elements of the Earth's atmosphere containing aqueous vapor.

"*Second.*—The observations do not prove that Mars has *no* atmosphere similar to our own; but they set a superior limit to the *extent* of such an atmosphere. Sunlight coming to us *via* Mars would pass twice either partially or completely through his atmosphere. If an increase of 25 to 50 per cent. in the thickness



of our own atmosphere produces an appreciable effect, a possible Martian atmosphere one-fourth as extensive as our own ought to be detected by the method employed.

"Third.—If Mars has an atmosphere of appreciable extent, its absorptive effect should be noticeable *especially* at the limb of the planet. My observations do not show an increased absorption at the limb. This portion of the investigation greatly strengthens the view that Mars does not have an *extensive* atmosphere.

"While I believe that the polar caps on Mars are conclusive evidence of an atmosphere and aqueous vapor, I do not consider that they exist in sufficient quantity to be detected by the spectro-scope. This view has an important bearing upon the questions relating to the low albedo [reflecting power] of the planet, and the well-known brightness of its limb, in both of which respects the planet resembles our Moon."

### INFLUENCE OF HEAT ON FOOD.

PRIMITIVE man ate his roots and fruits raw. We generally cook ours, yet there are some people, especially among the newer and more extreme school of vegetarians, who are inclined to think that we have scarcely improved on the methods of our savage ancestors. On this point *Cosmos*, Paris, November 24, speaks in a brief note, of which we subjoin a translation:

"It is generally supposed that heat, by coagulating the albuminoid substances in foods, diminishes their nutritive value.

"This is not altogether correct. There is no real loss in the digestibility and nutritive power of foods before they are subjected to a more or less complete decomposition, recognizable by the brown color that they then assume. This does not take place when the action of heat has simply coagulated the albuminoids, without any other essential modification.

"It has been shown, for example, that the digestibility of certain articles of food is not lessened by simple dessication at a temperature of 75° to 85° C., that is to say, at the temperature of coagulation of albuminoid substances, though it diminishes noticeably by heating to 125° to 130°. The same fact has been demonstrated experimentally for food cooked in water or steam.

"Prof. H. Weiske has experimented on this subject at the Agricultural Institute of the University of Breslau, with oats, which were given to animals partly in their natural condition and partly after forty-eight hours of heating at 48°. The digestibility was the same in both cases.

"It follows that every treatment to which food is subjected—drying, steaming, etc.—so long as the temperature does not exceed 100°, so that no transformation or decomposition takes place, does not diminish its digestibility at all. This does not prove, however, that we may not, by heating, render various foods, according to their nature, more quickly or more slowly digestible; this fact is without importance from the point of view of total nutriment. But if the heating has been done at a temperature exceeding 100° C. [the boiling-point of water], or if it has been too prolonged, we may be certain that food so treated has lost some of its digestibility and its nutritive power.

"Consequently, very hot cakes, brewers' grains roasted very brown, very dark-colored hay, etc., must be considered as having lost part of their digestibility and nutritive effect. Numerous observations demonstrate this."—*Translated for THE LITERARY DIGEST.*

**The Recent Transit of Mercury.**—Prof. E. E. Barnard reports in *Popular Astronomy*, December, that the observations of the transit at Lick Observatory with the great telescope were unusually favorable. The good weather conditions gave an opportunity to look for evidences of an atmosphere and for any markings on the disk, but neither could be observed; no luminous ring was observed around the planet, either at the contacts or during the passage across the Sun, and the planet's disk was uniformly dark, round, and sharply defined. The white spot reported as having been seen at some previous transits was not visible, and must have been an optical illusion unless it is now turned away from us. The disk of the planet was not black, but appeared lighter than the sky about the Sun. Professor Barnard assumes that this effect was purely optical, as it could scarcely have been due to Earth-shine.

### IS MAN GROWING SHORTER?

TRADITION, with no uncertain voice, answers this question in the affirmative. The sacred writings of all peoples, the sagas of the North, the legends of the South—all speak of the great stature of primitive man. "There were giants in those days," and we moderns, though more powerful in intellect and having greater control over the forces of nature, "are as grasshoppers" compared with them. The results of recent scientific investigation, however, lend no support to this view. In an article in *Knowledge*, London, December, Miss C. S. Bremner concludes that we have no reason to believe either this theory or the more modern one that our physical as well as our mental stature is rather increasing than dwindling. After describing the traditions of the various races of men on the subject, Miss Bremner speaks as follows:

"Dr. Rahon, a French scientist of considerable repute, has recently collected statistics on human stature, while working at the Musée Broca under Dr. Manouvrier, a well-known professor of anthropology. Yet, in estimating the value of the conclusions to which M. Rahon has come, it ought to be remembered that his investigations have been limited to one country—France. M. Rahon has based his calculations on some millions of prehistoric bones collected from all parts of France, and now preserved in the Paris anthropological museums.

"To establish a term of comparison between men of former times and men living now, it was indispensably necessary to have precise knowledge of the height of the latter. Dr. Manouvrier, therefore, measured the bones of two hundred and five men and one hundred and nineteen women who had undergone dissection in the Paris School of Medicine. The average height thus obtained was 1.650 meters for men, and 1.528 for women.

"On the other hand, the average height of adult men measured in the French criminal identification department by M. Bertillon is 1.648 meters, which is, moreover, the average French height, as ascertained in military recruiting. The criminal identification department gives 1.545 meters as the average height of adult women.

"Dr. Rahon's measurement of the bones of various prehistoric and ancient peoples supplies an interesting comparison. He studied, in succession, bones of the quaternary, neolithic, proto-historic periods, and of the Middle Ages, with the following results:—

- 1.—QUATERNARY PERIOD.  
5 male cases, average height 1.629 m.
- 2.—NEOLITHIC PERIOD.  
429 male cases, average height 1.625 m.  
189 female cases, " " 1.506 m.
- 3.—PROTO-HISTORIC.  
215 male cases, average height 1.662 m.  
39 female cases, " " 1.539 m.
- 4.—PARISIANS OF THE MIDDLE AGES.  
(Cemetery of Saint Marcel.)  
294 men, average height 1.657 m.  
101 women, " " 1.555 m.  
(Cemetery of Saint Germain-des-Prés.)  
140 men, average height 1.656 m.  
46 women, " " 1.555 m.

"What conclusion, therefore, can be drawn from these figures, based on serious and methodical investigation? Undoubtedly, we may conclude that all those who hold the opinion that our stature is appreciably smaller than that of our ancestors, labor under a delusion.

"As a result of Dr. Rahon's investigations it may be definitely stated:

"(1) That the skeletons attributed to the most ancient representatives of the human race belonged to individuals of stature at most normal, if not small.

"(2) That neolithic peoples—of the polished flint period, dating back more than three thousand years—constantly show us medium stature, lower than our present average height.

"(3) That the various proto-historic peoples, Gaul, Frank, Burgundian, Merovingian, present an average stature superior

to that of French people of to-day, but not so great as we have been led to expect; as a matter of fact, not exceeding 0.015 meter.

"In short, in spite of the armor of the Middle Ages, we must come to the conclusion, if we may trust to Dr. Rahon's statistics, that height has almost inappreciably diminished by 0.007 meter. We have, therefore, no cause for discouragement; we need hardly cry out 'degeneration' yet. If we diminish no more than this in the centuries, we have no reason to fear that our great-grandchildren will be dwarfs.

"So far as women are concerned, the figures seem to point to an appreciable diminution in the difference of the stature of the sexes. The difference between neolithic man and woman is calculated at 0.119 meter; proto-historic, 0.123; Middle Ages, 0.102; modern times (dissection), 0.122; ditto (criminal investigation), 0.103."

It will be noticed that these results have reference only to a change from prehistoric times to the present. From other considerations we may be forced to conclude that, in some countries at least, the proportion of short men to tall ones has appreciably increased within a few years. M. Donath, of Budapest, from a study of unpublished military records in various European countries, concludes that in nearly all of them the number of men rejected from the army for smallness of stature is increasing. His results, which are given in the *Revue Scientifique*, are, in condensed form, as follows:

In the Austro-Hungarian army, the percentage of those rejected for this cause has risen in ten years from 19.4 to 76.56. In Germany, notwithstanding the lowering of the standard of height on account of the exigencies of the service, it has risen from 7.8 per cent. to 16.6. In France, the percentage has increased in sixteen years from 6.9 to 13.3. In Italy, the increase from 1881 to 1891 was from 7.7 to 23.2 per cent. In Belgium there was a like increase; Switzerland alone was an exception.

In commenting on this result, *Cosmos*, Paris, December 1, says:

"It remains to be shown that diminution of height is a deterioration. Tall men are rarely the strongest or the most intelligent."

**A French Car-Starter.**—"Although a number of ingenious devices have been proposed by which the starting effort of trams drawn by animal power could be reduced," says *Industries and Iron*, London, November 30, "nothing has been done in this country in that direction to merit much notice. The Casman starter, however, is at work on the Tramways du Nord at Paris, and the Tramways Maritimes at Antwerp. It consists of link-rods having connection with the draw-bar, and a ratchet gear on the axle on the fore-wheel, so that at starting the draft of the horse is applied direct to the wheel. By the use of this appliance it can be shown that the starting effort is in many cases less than the effort required for steady motion. The result is explained by the increase in the arm of the lever, which applies the force at the moment of starting from rest. The apparatus is self-setting, so that by its disposition the desired effect is always obtained when the pull is first applied to the draw-bar."

**Have Birds an Esthetic Faculty?**—A paragraph in *The Independent*, a few years ago, says *Mechan's Monthly*, November, quoted the opinion of an observer that the beautiful nest of the pewee (*Contopus virens*), faced so beautifully on completion, by attractive lichens, could scarcely be solely for protective reasons, but indicated the possession of an esthetic faculty. Prof. Asa Gray entered the lists against this view. He was sure the birds had no thought of anything but to make their nests as much as possible like a lichen-covered branch, so as to deceive the rapacious enemy. It seems to be admitted that the greater beauty of the male bird is to aid him in his amatory transactions. This would certainly be granting some force to the esthetic argument, though Dr. Gray's point might hold good in nest-making, where protection from enemies would naturally be the uppermost thought. Dr. C. C. Abbott, the eminent ornithologist, has been making some experiments to test this point in connection with nest building. He placed woolen yarn where a pair of orioles could find it convenient. It was of yellow, purple, gray, green,

and red. He mixed them so that the bright colors should be in the most tempting situations. But they would not touch a single strand of yellow or red. All of the gray was taken, with here and there a few strands of purple. It was impossible not to conclude that the prevailing colors of the bark of the trees with their mosses and lichens instigated the selections of the woolen yarn. "We must deceive the enemy as far as possible," was evidently the avi-architects' leading thought in the construction of their building.

**Serum Therapeutics.**—Regarding *The New York Herald's* subscription to supply serum to the poor, *The Medical News*, Philadelphia, December 15, says: "The lay public and the newspapers should leave this matter in the hands of the medical profession. Such a movement as that of *The Herald* can only bring harm in the long run. In the present condition of the public pulse, and with the infinitesimal amount of the antitoxin obtainable, it can have no other effect than to enormously enhance the price of what serum is to be had. Moreover, it is by no means certain, despite all that has been reported, that the agent is of so great therapeutic value as it is considered to be. Perhaps the whole thing may prove a failure. Above all, let us have no silly or insane haste, and no debasing commercialization of the means of treatment. Let science and professional experiment dictate and guide, and let us wait until the assurance and the guidance is beyond all doubtfulness and deceit."

## SCIENCE NOTES.

THE advantages of schnebelite, the new explosive, are thus enumerated by *The New Science Review*: "Its manufacture is simplicity itself; it is adapted for all war, sporting, and mining purposes; it is almost smokeless, with a very slight recoil; it is not permanently damaged by heat or wet; the gun does not foul or become oxidized; no noxious gases are produced from its combustion; it is very cheap to make; a temperature of 540° Fahrenheit is required to produce combustion; when a lighted match is applied to it in its unconfined state it simply burns, no explosion being produced; the pressure developed by the charge of schnebelite, required to give the normal velocity to the bullet fired from a military rifle, is from 1,600 to 1,800 atmospheres, as compared with 2,600 to 3,200 atmospheres, the pressure developed by charges of other explosives when the same velocity is imparted to the bullet, and as compared with the best dynamite its force is as 55 to 45, or twenty per cent. greater, while it does not pulverize the surrounding rock as dynamite does.

"The inventors assert that schnebelite can be manufactured and sold at least fifty per cent. cheaper than any other known explosive of a similar character. Its adoption by the French Government would, it is believed, result in a saving of 50,000,000 francs per annum."

A PECULIAR substitute for window-glass, known as "tectorium," is stated to have been for some time employed in Austria, Italy, Germany, Switzerland, and Russia, as a covering for hot-houses, marquees, verandas, windows of factories, roofs of stores, etc. It is a special, insoluble, bichromated gelatine, translucent as opal glass and incorporated in wire gauze. It possesses, we are told, the translucency of opal glass, is tough and flexible, bends without breaking, does not dissolve in water, and is not injured by frost. It is a bad conductor of heat, and becomes stronger, it is stated, the longer it is exposed to the air.

RECENT experiments in Canada on feeding frozen wheat to live-stock show that although this is not the most economical way of feeding grain, chop-fed frozen wheat mixed with straw alone gave a return of 50 cents per bushel, not counting cost of labor. If turnips are added to the above ration, they not only pay their cost price but greatly increase the feeding value of the other ingredients.

IN perforating postage-stamps a die-plate is placed below the needles of a machine carrying 300 needles. As about one hundred and eighty million holes are punched per day, the wear on the die-plate is excessive; brass plates wear out in a day, and even steel plates are rapidly destroyed. The use of aluminum bronze has caused the die-plates to last for months without renewal.

ONE of the latest uses of electro-deposition is the sealing of cans of fruit and preserved meat. Where the jar is of non-conducting material, a conductive layer is formed on the lid of the can, and a metal coating deposited in the ordinary way by electro-plating. The same process can be used to form air-tight caps over the necks of bottles containing wine or chemical solutions.

STEEL rails are known to have a short life in tunnels and other closed spaces into which the fumes from locomotives are discharged. This appears to be due to the conversion of the sulfur in coal into sulfuric acid, and the subsequent chemical action of the acid upon the steel.

POPP and Becker, German chemists, recommend sterilizing the materials used in butter-making. They find that butter from pasteurized and sterilized cream keeps much longer than that from unsterilized cream, that from sterilized cream lasting the longest.

IT is proposed to establish a telephone line between England and Holland. The London Chamber of Commerce and the Netherland Chamber of Commerce are trying to ascertain if the time is yet ripe for the undertaking.



## THE RELIGIOUS WORLD.

## A NOTABLE SCIENTIFIC DEFENSE OF RELIGION.

THE old subject of the relations between science and religion is taken up from a somewhat new standpoint by Prof. A. Jay Du Bois, of the Yale Scientific School. As the utterance of a scientific man of acknowledged reputation, his article in *The Century*, December, merits especial attention. He takes as his text the sarcastic assertion of Huxley that modern Christianity is laying aside "every inconvenient matter of fact in Christian history," while continuing "to pay divine honors to the residue," and that the logical conclusion is "faith no longer in contact with fact of any kind." This assertion, Professor Du Bois thinks, rests upon an assumption that religion is based solely upon certain records, and must stand or fall with them and their scholastic interpretation. Professor Du Bois then points out that "the only basis upon which any religion can stand, or has a right to stand, is at bottom identical with that upon which science rests—viz., the basis of universal experience, the testimony of universal consciousness, the result of daily verification." This basis, he thinks, science cannot ignore, and it must be considered before Professor Huxley's conclusion can be accepted, for it is a basis that lies outside of the Scriptures. "We do not accept it," he adds, "because of the Scriptures; we accept the Scriptures because of it. They are the record of a fact, but they are not the fact." The Professor then proceeds in the following strain, similar to that pursued by him in a notable article published several years ago in the same magazine on the subject of immortality. He says:

"It is admitted as an undoubted fact of science that the universe is so constructed that any change of position or arrangement of any of its parts must affect the entire system. This is indeed but a statement of the law of gravitation itself. If the motion or position of so much as a single particle of matter is changed, the motion and position of every atom in the universe must be thereby affected. Every one will admit this as one of the most certain conclusions of science.

"It is also an admitted fact that within our bodies matter itself is subject to mind—moves and is moved according to the dictates of mind. But since it is already admitted that to change the motion or position of even a single atom of matter must affect the entire universe, we are at once obliged to admit as a necessary conclusion, on the basis of the most certain facts of science itself, that *the entire universe is so constructed that mind not only can, but actually does, affect its every part.* The action of human volition is thus a force in the universe. A complete survey of the universe must deal with this force.

"But everywhere in nature we observe motions that are not due to human volition. What can we say of such? Evidently we can only legitimately conclude, in harmony with what we already know, and in terms of the rest of our knowledge, that since some of the phenomena we observe are beyond doubt due to mind, and since such mind-action affects the entire universe, thereby proving that the universe is of such a nature that throughout its whole extent mind can and does affect it, therefore, *all* the action and motions we observe, whether due to human volition or not, must likewise be referred by us to the action of mind. This is the only conclusion in terms of the rest of our knowledge that we can frame. It is the direct conclusion from admitted facts.

"We arrive, then, directly from admitted facts, at the conclusion that *the universe in all its parts is the visible manifestation to us of underlying mind, and hence all interpretation by us of the phenomena of nature should be guided by the assumption of underlying purpose.*"

Professor Du Bois then points out that, in the light of this view of the universe, "uniform action" is but the necessary result of unchanging purpose acting under unchanging conditions. But as conditions continually change, and can never be duplicated, uniformity is never absolute. Hence the possibility of miracle,

which "is simply the unique result of unique conditions." He continues:

"Once admit the possibility of unique conditions, and science must admit the certainty of unique results.

"What we call 'natural law' is thus the result of purpose acting under duplicated conditions. What we call 'miracle' can only be the result of that same purpose acting in view of unique conditions.

"In this view we need not go to the Bible for miracles. We find them in the history of the Earth and man. The beginning of life, the origin of consciousness—these are the well-established miracles of science. As the unique result of unique conditions they are miraculous, and yet they are strictly natural. . . .

"Again, our view alone fills the gap between mind and matter, which is otherwise impassable to science. In the light of our conclusion, 'persistence of force' resolves itself into existence of mind. We start with mind in nature, with purpose back of force. We are compelled to start thus, as the necessary conclusion from admitted facts.

"The same also holds true as to the introduction of life and consciousness. No life without antecedent life, no consciousness without antecedent consciousness, no mind without antecedent mind, become necessary conclusions.

"This view is admitted by Herbert Spencer when he says that the universe implies an infinite and eternal energy from which all things proceed. . . .

"In the light of our conclusion the standing quarrel between religion and evolution disappears from sight. A sentence disposes of it. It is no longer a question between divine foresight and divine interposition. There is seen to be no 'interposition' possible. It is a question simply of divine *method*. . . .

"Such is the view of the universe to which we are directly conducted by admitted facts of science. It is a universe of purpose governed by mind. It is not a wreck drifting hither and thither, and the sport of chance. It is framed in wisdom, instinct with purpose, headed toward a port—and the hand of a Pilot is at the helm."

After discussing, in the light of this conclusion, the past history of the Earth and the purposes for which man was placed in it, Professor Du Bois points out that "the end of the whole mighty process" is: "for the race, continued progress in spiritual attainment and moral advancement; for the individual, self-struggle, self-mastery, self-conduct in obedience to law—not compelled but voluntary obedience—conscious cooperation, with the promise of continuance of such cooperation sanctioned by reason, justice, love, hope, and faith."

"But man cannot attain this end alone. He is handicapped by nature—by heredity. Here religion gives its aid, substituting a spiritual environment for the physical environment which has become a hindrance, now that progress is to be chiefly spiritual. This, he thinks, is the real mission and message of religion to man under all garbs of doctrine and by whatever books proclaimed.

"Religion in this sense [he concludes] can no more be attacked by invalidating portions of the Scriptures than science can be impugned by invalidating portions of the synthetic philosophy—not so much so, for the latter is a chain of reasoning where flaws may well exist; the former rests on the basis of a simple statement of fact, which invites and challenges universal test.

"Religion, then, challenges scientific recognition upon the very grounds of scientific demonstration, as the verification by daily experience of a fact of daily life—the verification of the spiritual in human life and action, even as science itself is the verification of the spiritual in nature. The fact of gravitation rests upon no firmer basis. . . .

"Thus we see that faith, instead of being 'no longer in contact with fact of any kind,' is daily coming into line with the known facts of nature and man. But however conflicting and diverse the views of theology, back of all lies the solid fact of human experience. This is the basis of religion—the *verification of the spiritual in life*. Doctrines of theology, like theories of science, have their day, and give place to better, but the basis of both is the same. Faith is thus not a dream; it is not merely the substance of things hoped for: it is the evidence of things unseen."

## TWO VIEWS OF MISSIONARIES IN INDIA.

A BITING article, almost contemptuous in tone, is contributed by Purushotam Rao Telang, a Brahman, on Christian Missions (*Forum*, December), and is followed by a reply from James M. Thoburn, missionary bishop of the Methodist Episcopal Church. The controversy was excited by an article in the same magazine last April, written by Mr. Gandhi, telling "Why Christian Missions have Failed in India." Mr. Telang says sarcastically that the missions have not "failed," and will not fail so long as \$14,588,354 is added every year to the capital invested in missions. He speaks of the life which the missionary who receives \$100 a month is enabled to live, saying that this is equivalent to an income of \$1,000 a month in America. He draws the following picture of the missionary in India:

"He can have five or six servants, a good house, free of cost to him, and a horse and carriage—at a cost of less than \$100 per month. The missionary lives exceedingly well. He has no cares except the making of his reports and statements of the converts that he makes. In the morning he takes his breakfast; he walks in the church grounds, and looks to his flower-garden; then he sits in an arm-chair on the veranda, reading the Bible, newspapers, or a book; he eats a hearty luncheon and takes a good nap, the servant pulling the fan; he gets up at 3 o'clock in the afternoon, takes his Bible and goes to the town, followed by a pariah convert. He stands at the corner of a street, fixes his eye-glasses, and makes a sign for his pariah disciple to begin the work. The pariah, clad in American garments, excepting his head-dress, stands and exhorts his countrymen to embrace Christianity. While the Christian pariah goes on with his harangue, the missionary looks with a smile of pride, first on the pariah and then on the people. When the Christian pariah exhausts his fund of exhortation and ends his oration, the missionary adds a few words. The better class of people look at him with pitying eyes, smile, and walk off to their homes. By this time it is the hour for dinner, and the missionary goes home. The talk and the walk give him an appetite for the good dinner that awaits him. After dinner he enjoys music or a chat with his wife, and then he retires, to get up in the morning to repeat the arduous business of the day previous."

Mr. Telang then goes on to consider the actual results of mission work in India, and is equally uncomplimentary in his conclusions. He says:

"The missionaries first went with great zeal and a noble aim, and with sanguine hopes of converting the masses by wholesale. In their imaginations they regarded the Hindus as benighted, without any religion worthy of the name; and it did not occur to them that the hold which the Hindu's religion has on him and his whole life is a great deal stronger and more firmly rooted, because it is a great deal older and more elaborate, than the hold that the Christian religion has on Christians. This is the fundamental mistake made by missionaries, and the fundamental delusion held by the masses of Christians who contribute to the support of missions. They see in their dreams millions of Hindus, especially the Brahmans, coming to the church and kneeling to be baptized—welcoming the new religion. But when the missionaries reach India, these dreams dissolve and they meet a wholly different state of things. The higher classes of the Hindus are the proudest religious devotees found among men. They hold with greater firmness to their ancient religion and its literature than to life itself. For all other religions, indeed, but especially for the Christian religion, which is associated in their minds with the practice of meat-eating and wine-drinking, they have (to be frank) a profound and immovable contempt. The higher classes, particularly the Brahmans, have a religion of their own antedating the time set in the old Christian chronology when Adam and Eve were created; and its grand philosophy is studied the world over. Moreover the Brahman feels his immeasurable intellectual superiority to the Christian—indeed to any other man. In India, the routine of everyday life—food, clothing, customs, and manners—is all part and parcel of the religion. Dressing and eating and bathing—every act of life is a religious act. Moreover, in the present Hindu religion one can find all the essential elements of all other religions. It is a vast pile of religions built up with the strongest spiritual cement, which has

stood for thousands of years, challenging the storms of Buddhism, Mohammedanism, and now Christianity. Now and then faulty bricks in the structure, such as pariahs and other low classes, are 'converted;' but this conversion, instead of weakening the old religion, polishes it, and takes away the dirt from it. It has stood innumerable attacks, as scholars who have made a study of Hindu religion know. The Hindus regard it as impregnable and everlasting. To preach Christianity to the Hindu, who had a religion and was civilized before the dawn of history, seems to him, therefore, the most ridiculous thing on Earth—indeed, audacious.

"All Christian missionaries to India must have met with this kind of a disillusion—at one period or another—if they have good judgment and any great degree of common sense.

"When, therefore, it was found to be practically impossible to make great numbers of converts among the higher classes,—the Brahmans—they naturally turned their attention to the lower classes, the lowest of which is the pariahs. The pariahs, the very touch of whom is polluting to a Brahman, are not allowed to live in the same streets with the higher-caste Hindu. They live outside the town. The missionary gave them food and clothing, and thus won their gratitude. He reminded them how low they were in Hindu society, and told them that if they became Christians they would raise themselves from their low station. Naturally some of the pariahs, more to get a status in life than on account of religion, for which they care very little, became Christians.

"Here, in justice to the missionary, I must say that he has done much to lift the pariah, socially and mentally, by opening schools and educating those who became converts. The structure of Hindu society and religion—built on caste—is such that there is no such help for the pariah as the Christian missionary has brought to him."

He proceeds to tell how a high-caste Brahman boy of sixteen was converted by the missionaries by means of initiating him "into meat-eating and wine-drinking." His taste was aroused for wine, his parents being kept in ignorance of events until the missionary had obtained "a magical influence over his young heart." The result was disgrace to the boy and sorrow to his own family and to that of his *fiancée*. This, we are told, is not a solitary instance.

Referring to stories told about the car of Juggernaut, the throwing of babies into the Ganges, and the suttee, or burning of widows, Mr. Telang asserts that there is not a particle of truth in any of them, except that suttee "was practiced only among the warriors in certain parts of India, and not among the Brahmans and other classes." He describes the car of Juggernaut as a car containing a representation of the Deity, which is drawn through the street in certain religious festivals, but no one is thrown under the wheels unless by accident or unless some religious fanatic throws himself down in a frenzy.

In vigorous language we are then treated to a comparison of Christian and Hindu morality, reference being made to the chronicles of our daily papers, lynchings, bank-robberies, divorce cases, train-robberies, saloons, gambling-holes, and houses of ill-fame. The treatment of the Indians, the enslavement of the Africans, the destruction of Australian aborigines, the wresting of the Hawaiian Islands from their sovereign, the Spanish Inquisition, are all piled up as a reproach to "Christian" nations. He expresses admiration for the material conquests of Western civilization and for its educational systems, which, he says, India wishes to imitate. Money expended on teachers would, he says, be a great benefit, but money expended on missions is a waste.

Bishop Thoburn replies directly to many of the points raised by Mr. Telang. The presumption, he thinks, is that Mr. Telang is no better fitted for giving instruction on the subject of Christian missions in India than the average Yale or Princeton graduate is for writing an authoritative article on the state of Protestant churches in the United States. His picture of a missionary's daily life is, the Bishop states, a mere caricature, "not intended—we must suppose—to be taken seriously." In the matter of



salary, we are told that at \$100 a month the missionary receives "about one third of the salary of the chaplain next door, and one-fifth to one tenth of the income of the station doctor," and sometimes pays more to the head-master of his school than he receives himself. The five or six servants he may hire will do no more than one Irish or Swedish girl in America will do. As to cares, the missionary has "to care for the endless interests of a score, a hundred, or perhaps five hundred families" besides his own. While a few German and English missionaries may drink wine, Bishop Thoburn does not know of a single American missionary who drinks it.

The Bishop then refers to the "pariahs" among whom the chief work of the missionaries is accomplished. These "depressed classes" constitute in Southern India about fifty millions, or one sixth of the population, and include many classes from the lowest scavengers to the more respectable artisans. Practically they are excluded from the schools, and no door of hope was ever opened to them until the Christian missionaries came. "What would the United States be to-day," he asks, "if the whole artisan population had been kept in a state of absolute ignorance and social degradation, from the first settlement of the country to the present day?" He then proceeds as follows:

"But are these people [the pariahs] so very inferior in character and natural ability to the higher castes? To this question it is impossible to give a direct answer, chiefly for the reason that they do not constitute a homogeneous community. They differ from one another not only in different parts of the country, but often when living as sub-castes side by side. It seems almost certain that they are descendants of ancient tribes who were either conquered by more civilized Aryan invaders, or brought into India as camp-followers by these invaders. Hence they have not had a common origin, and many of them may have been Aryans themselves at a very remote period. Others belong to various aboriginal races, and hence differ as widely among themselves as their remote ancestors probably did. One thing, however, is very certain: many of them are men of fine physique, with very fair mental powers, and are abundantly able to hold their own in the battle of life when Christianity gives them a fair chance. Mr. Telang says the missionaries win these people 'by giving them bread, and promising them money or employment.' This charge is often made by opponents of missionary work, and hence the reader will no doubt be surprised when I assure him that the missionary who works among them is troubled much more by high-caste applicants for money and employment than by those belonging to the depressed classes. During the past four years I have been among tens of thousands of these people who are becoming Christians, and the one thing which they never ask for is money. Wherever I go they beg me to provide schools for their children, but not once in six months does any one ask for food or clothing, or even mention the subject of securing a higher social position.

"In fairness I ought to say that the above remarks do not apply to all the divisions of the low-caste community. Some of them are cringing and feeble creatures, with many marks of inferiority stamped upon them, but so far as my own observation has extended it is not from such communities that converts are usually drawn. On the other hand those who become Christians improve rapidly and ask no odds of the Brahmans or the Mohammedans. I have seen a son of an extremely low out-caste preparing high-caste youths for university examinations. I have seen hundreds of Christian youths, whose parents had belonged to these classes, in school and college with Hindu and Mohammedan boys, apparently on terms of good fellowship and successfully holding their own in the keen competition of the school-room. I have seen many of them placed in responsible positions in the mission field, and acquitting themselves very creditably indeed. I may be too sanguine, but it is my deliberate opinion that the successors of the present generation of Christians will startle the Brahmans of the next century, by appearing on the scene as their competitors for every position of honor or emolument which the latter now hold."

WE hope the time is not far distant when the dead will be buried with less show and parade, and when, in all ordinary cases, the burial service will consist of but little, if anything, more than the reading of appropriate passages of Scripture and prayer.—*The United Presbyterian.*

## PROF. C. A. BRIGGS ON THE SALVATION ARMY.

THOUSANDS of persons will readily agree with Prof. Charles A. Briggs's statement that "the Salvation Army is one of the most remarkable religious organizations of modern times." Professor Briggs writes on this theme in *The North American Review*, December, where, aside from summarizing the incidents connected with the life of the founder of the Army, he gives some facts that are not generally known. The writer characterizes the Salvation Army as "a younger brother to the Anglo-Catholic movement of the first half of our century," and continues:

"The latter was born in the colleges of Oxford, the former in the slums of East London. The one is intellectual, esthetic, and persuasive, appealing to the more refined and cultured sections of society; the other is rugged, noisy, and aggressive, laying hold of the common people and especially of the rude and uncultivated classes. They are both alike, essentially ethical and mystic. They have a common father in that practical English common-sense which easily adapts itself to its environment; and a common mother in that spirit of chivalric devotion to Christ which is ever more or less medieval in its tendencies. The great central movement of Christianity in our century was born in Germany and continues to pour its life-giving streams of ethical, critical, and scientific influence in ever-increasing richness and fulness upon British and American life. It stretches its hands in sympathy to the Anglo-Catholics on the right and to the Salvationists on the left.

"The advance of Christianity in the world is through the action and reaction of conservative and progressive forces. It is necessary that every gain should be conserved. The conservative force not only defends the gains against the old foes, but obstructs the advance of the progressive force which would go forth from its own midst in pursuit of new gains. But the progressive force goes on all the same, in part to become in turn a new conservatism, and in part to issue in a new progressive energy. This process has continued until the greater part of Christianity is in garrison, conserving positions gained in the successive epochs of church history. All along the line the well-defended fortresses are to be seen, representing the many forms of Christianity that have been developed in the Christian centuries and marking every stage of advance. The Christianity of Great Britain and America has been chiefly engaged in conserving the gains of the older movements of Protestantism, Puritanism, and Methodism. The new life of our age burst forth first in the Oxford movement, and last of all in the Salvation Army, which constitute the right and left wings of the progressive force of Christianity at the present time in Great Britain and America. . . .

"The Salvation Army was born in January, 1877, when it was agreed at the annual conference of the Christian Mission that William Booth, the general superintendent, should no longer be restricted by the system of conferences and committees, but should retain in his hands the general direction and control of the mission. At a conference with his chief assistants shortly before Christmas in the same year, the new-born child was named by Mr. Booth himself, by a happy inspiration, the Salvation Army. The military organization was a growth. At first some of the evangelists were called captains by the lower classes of the seaports and mining districts, and their assistants lieutenants. These titles were found to be more acceptable to the masses than reverend, mister, or miss. The evangelists, accustomed to the use of captain and lieutenant among themselves, easily shortened the general superintendent into General. Thus, by a natural development, the terminology of the Army spread. The last of the Christian Mission conferences was held in August, 1878, 'and the military program was adopted unanimously and with acclamation.' The year of transition had been productive of great increase of strength. The change of organization and methods increased the mission stations from 29 to 50, the officers from 31 to 88, and the converts from 4,632 to 10,762. The growth of the Army now became still more remarkable. The names of the stations were changed into corps, the places of assembly into barracks, and the training-schools into garrisons. Uniforms were adopted in November of 1878. The first flag was presented at about the same time. 'The colors were designed by the General, and were intended to be emblematic of the great end in

view: the blue border typified holiness, while the scarlet ground was a perpetual reminder of the central lesson of Christianity—Salvation through the blood of Jesus. A yellow star in the center betokened the fiery baptism of the Holy Ghost. Equally striking was the motto, "Blood and Fire!" inscribed across the star, signifying, in a word, the two great essential doctrines of the mission—the blood of Jesus and the fire of the Holy Ghost. At the close of the year 1878 the Salvation Army was thoroughly organized as an Army of the Lord, with 81 corps and 127 officers, of whom 101 had been converted at its own meetings. In seventeen years it has grown into these magnificent proportions:

## LATEST STATISTICS OF THE SALVATION ARMY.

	Corps.	Officers.
International Staff and Employees, including Rescue, Trade, and Social Staff .....		1,159
Great Britain.....	1,210	2,981
Canada and Newfoundland.....	240	635
United States of America.....	539	1,953
South America.....	9	41
Australia.....	378	1,217
New Zealand.....	84	288
India and Ceylon.....	139	435
South Africa and St. Helena.....	63	194
France.....	47	206
Switzerland.....	67	199
Sweden.....	166	627
Norway.....	63	220
Denmark.....	60	188
Holland.....	55	214
Germany.....	24	81
Belgium.....	11	34
Finland.....	11	47
Italy.....	5	20
Jamaica.....	29	49
Grand total.....	3,200	10,788

"The Salvation Army is remarkable for its employment of women in its ranks and among its highest officers. Catherine Booth had an equal share with her husband in the organization of the Army. Her daughters vie with her sons, and her daughters-in-law with her sons-in-law. For the first time in history men and women have engaged in Christian work on an equal footing and in entire harmony and freedom. The Roman Catholic has employed nuns and sisters of mercy for works of education and charity. The modern Anglican and Lutheran communions have organized sisterhoods and orders of deaconesses. The Presbyterian Church of Scotland, the Methodists of America, and other denominations have recently begun to train and employ deaconesses. But none of these gives women an equal place on the platform and in the pulpit with men. In the Salvation Army a large proportion of the corps is under the command of women. The higher ranks are equally open to women. Side by side, Commandant Ballington Booth and his attractive, eloquent, and sagacious wife govern the Salvation Army on the American continent from their headquarters in New York, as the General and Mother Booth so long commanded the Army from the headquarters in London. The eldest daughter of the General led a campaign into France and Switzerland, and succeeded in the same kind of rescue work there as in England. She was accompanied by Miss Maud Charlesworth (now Mrs. Ballington Booth), who describes the work in her interesting volume 'Beneath Two Flags'; Miss Edith Marshall, now chief of the Auxiliary Battalion, and others. She rightly gained the title of 'La Maréchale.' No one would be surprised if she should eventually succeed to the Generalship. There is nothing in the constitution of the Army to determine whether a man or a woman should be its chief. The writer has studied the Army closely, and with sympathy in its main purpose, for the greater part of its short history, and he does not hesitate to say that, in his opinion, the Army owes its wonderful success in large part to the gifted and heroic women who have led its battalions with a self-sacrifice and consecration that remind one of the crusaders and of Apostolic times. . . .

"The literature of the Army is very extensive in religious books and tracts, in hymn books and music books. But the great literary organ of the Army is *The War Cry*, the circulation of which is regarded as wellnigh as important as holding meetings. There are 28 *War Crys*, printed in 14 different languages, whose united circulation is 51,000,000 copies a year.

"No religious organization in history has enjoyed such a marvelous growth as the Salvation Army in so short a time."

## THE FATHER AND MOTHER OF JESUS.

WAS Jesus born of a virgin? This question, which aroused a controversy among the Christians of the First and Second Centuries, is being pushed forward from several directions just now. The reading of the new Sinaitic gospel manuscript has (as told in *THE LITERARY DIGEST*, December 1, pp. 18, 19) suggested such an inquiry, and we find that a writer in the *Preussische Jahrbücher*, Berlin, who claims to write from the standpoint of a Christian, denies the virginity of Mary and appeals to Scripture to sustain his contention. He says:

"The reason why the formula of the Apostolic Creed may be regarded as open to objections is simply that the text of the New Testament Scriptures is, in many places, irreconcilable with the Creed, and it may, therefore, be doubted that the authorities of early Christianity believed in the Immaculate Conception.

"The life of Jesus as we find it recorded in the Gospels, as well as the sayings of the Apostles, especially St. Paul, allow us to believe that the first Christian generation accepted Jesus as the son of Joseph and Mary. Against the direct testimony found in the first and third Gospels, where the virginity of the Mother is asserted, stands a lot of indirect New Testament testimony which treats Jesus as the son of Joseph—Mark vi. 2-4; Matt. xiii. 54-57; Mark iii. 20, 21; and Luke ii. 41-52. Everywhere Jesus speaks of His parents, His relatives; and the story as told by the Evangelists often mentions Him as the son of the Nazarene couple.

"Besides, it is an old tradition, never yet denied by friend or foe, that Jesus was a scion of the House of David. But *this descent is not, even in the New Testament, described as coming through Mary, but only through Joseph*. Nowhere is it said that Mary was of the race of David. Not until the Second Century was such an assumption made, by Justin the Martyr, in his worthless apocryphal Gospel. Yet it would have been almost impossible to fail to mention this royal descent of Mary if anything had been known of her family, although we know that the Israelites only acknowledged male descent. The two genealogical lists, Matt. i. 1-17 and Luke iii. 23-38, cannot, indeed, be reconciled with each other, but they both prove the desire to demonstrate Jesus's legitimate descent from David. Now, it does not require much arguing to prove that it would be utter nonsense to compile a genealogical tree of so and so many ancestors, only to end it by saying that Jesus was not related to them at all. That the earliest Christians looked upon Him as the son of David is conclusively proved by such passages as Acts ii. 29-32, and Romans i. 1-4."

The writer then reviews the Gospels in a manner which proves that he believes the passages speaking of Jesus as the son of a virgin to have been simply added to the text. But the most interesting part of his treatise is where he speaks of Isaiah vii. 14:

"St. Matthew tells us that the angel ordered Joseph to take Mary for his wife, as her state was only in fulfilment of the Prophet's word, which he quotes. Never has a faulty translation been attended by greater consequences. Not only the modern translations, but also the Vulgate, even the pre-Christian Septuagint, use the word *virgin*, and yet the Hebrew text uses a word which means simply 'young woman,' independently of her physical state. It is therefore quite possible that a young *married* woman was meant. Another pre-Christian translation, that of Theodosius, uses the right word, *neanis*, but it was the Septuagint that alone ruled the Christian and pre-Christian ancients. The knowledge of Hebrew was very limited; outside the learned circles it was not even understood in Palestine, where it had ceased to be the language of the people hundred of years before. Thus it came that *עַלְמָא* was translated by *παρθένος*."

Our attention has been called by *The Freeman's Journal*, of this city, to the fact that the extracts given in our columns December 1 (pp. 18-20), from J. Rendel Harris's article in *The Contemporary Review*, may not have conveyed an adequate idea of the conclusions reached by Mr. Harris, and stated in another part of the article from that quoted. The nine pages following the extracts given in *THE LITERARY DIGEST* are devoted to a care-



ful and somewhat technical analysis of the new Syriac manuscript and a comparison of its text with that of other manuscripts. He then concludes the article by speaking of the relation of the new readings in the Syriac manuscript that refer to Christ's nativity to the original gospel according to St. Matthew, and asks the question, "Are they [the new readings] valid against the Greek?" The first objection he finds to their validity is the expression "the Virgin Mary" (Matt. i. 16), which he says is "a late expression relatively to the New Testament," and "never formed part of the primitive text in any book of the New Testament."

The second and main objection is stated by Mr. Harris as follows:

"The next objection, a far more serious one, lies, as our readers have probably observed, in the inconsistency of the Sinai narrative as a whole; while the received story is miraculous and consistent, the new account is miraculous and inconsistent: it represents our Lord as the direct offspring of Joseph and Mary, but introduces a miraculous descent of an angel to explain what was, on its own hypothesis, a natural phenomenon. It omits the passage in which we are told of Joseph

[οὐκ ἐγίνωσκεν αὐτὴν ὥς] ἔτεκεν,

presumably implying the reverse of this statement, and yet it announces the birth as supernatural. Nor can these inconsistencies be removed, except by withdrawing the whole section concerning the angelic vision. If the angel remains, the theory of the normal generation must go, or the visit of the angel must be reduced to the annunciation of a non-miraculous event.

"Try and accommodate the incident of the angelic vision to the definitely expressed paternity of Joseph, and you will be obliged to erase the statements that Mary was with child before marriage, that the conception was from the Holy Spirit, that the prophecy was fulfilled that a virgin should conceive, as well as the clause actually absent in the Sinaitic text (οὐκ ἐγίνωσκεν αὐτὴν ὥς). Even the casual remark that Joseph was a just man would have to be removed, as being, on the hypothesis of the accuracy of the Sinaitic text, inconsistent with his conduct before the vision and the meditated divorce which was prevented by the vision. We should have to reduce the Infancy section to shreds before it would satisfy an Adoptionist hypothesis. And we can, therefore, only conclude that this section of the text was, in the first instance, not an Adoptionist, but an orthodox product, from which it follows at once that the Adoptionist variants which occur in the Angel section are deprivations. And to conclude thus for the verses in question, in view of the fact that these new readings which we have been studying form a connected group of a similar tendency, is to throw the gravest doubt on the genuineness of the variant, 'Joseph . . . begat Jesus,' in the genealogy proper.

"It appears, then, that the writer who has come to our knowledge in the variants of the Sinai manuscript is not the original composer of the text, but some later person, very near in date to the first hand, who has attempted to make the story non-miraculous by a series of inadequate incisions and excisions in an already existing text.

"If the preceding sketch of the new text be a just one, and the arguments brought forward valid, we are entitled to say of the leading changes of text which appear in our copy that 'an enemy hath done this,' and to apply the adjective Cerinthian to the readings, not merely by way of recognition, but as an indication of bad faith in the transmission of the Gospel."

**German Missions in Nyassa.**—In reviewing a recently published work on this interesting part of Africa, by A. Merensky, superintendent of evangelical German missions in the country, *Die Natur*, Halle, November 25, quotes as follows from the introduction:

"The region to the north of Nyassa was, up to a short time ago, little known and little regarded. Only three travelers—Thomson, Elton, and Giraud—had a long time previous crossed it in flying trips, and from them, as from a few English traders and missionaries dwelling on its borders, it became known that this country, for grandeur of natural scenery, beauty, and fertility, had scarce its equal in Africa. Through the Anglo-German agreement of 1890, this region fell within the German sphere of

influence, and soon afterward two German evangelical missionary societies undertook to labor among the natives—a task to which they were led by the central location of the land, and the peaceful disposition of the inhabitants. In 1891, the expeditions sent out by these societies left Germany and in the same year they began their work. The expedition sent by the Berlin Society was under the direction of the author. At the expiration of three years we find now to the north of Nyassa five mission-stations with fifteen European workers. At present the eyes of the German people have been directed anew toward this region by Major von Wissmann's expedition. The military station of Langenburg has been established to the north of Nyassa; the steamer *Wissmann* serves both for purposes of peaceful transportation and for the prevention of the slave-trade."

**Our Hymns and Tunes Not Popular.**—"We do not hear our young people singing hymns as they go about the house, or as they are at work. They are not heard in the shops as they used to be, where work is largely automatic. The hymns and tunes are not popular. They were popular not many years ago. The reason for this change is to be found, no doubt, in the character of both the hymns and the tunes, but especially in the latter. . . . The new music is technical, not emotional. The tunes are harmonies, not melodies. The air does not stand alone; does not fill the ear or satisfy the desire when sung alone. It is lacking in fulness, and breaks down here and there when without the other parts of the harmony. The harmony involves a succession of half-tones, of accidentals, of notes.

"It may as well be said, plainly: A great many of us extremely dislike by far the larger part of the new church music, and deplore the tendency in it toward an exhibition of technical skill. It may, also, be as well understood that German chorals are not popular among Americans, or approximations to them. Many of the tunes of the English composers are not popular with Americans. Is it not worth while to endeavor to secure hymns and tunes that will be popular? We do not go to church to practice singing, but to sing. We desire tunes we *can* sing, and without taking a course of lessons."—*The Christian Intelligencer*.

## RELIGIOUS NOTES.

THE religious tramp, like his pauper brother, wants to pick up a good meal where he can get it; but he is not fond of work. He likes to find a temporary shelter under some church roof, but he is not a hewer of wood or a drawer of water. He is a consumer, not a producer. He believes in free churches and free religion, and lives up to this creed by not paying for the support of either. There is no law against beggary of this kind, and so the church tramp can make a shift whenever he pleases. What is wanted is some religious almshouse for the care of this order of spiritual mendicants.—*The Christian Register, Boston*.

THE largest Bible in the world is in the Vatican. It is a manuscript Bible and written in Hebrew. The book weighs 320 pounds, and there is a history connected with it. Some Italian Jews obtained a view of the precious volume, and told their co-religionists of Venice of it. The consequence was that a syndicate of Venetian Jews endeavored to purchase it, offering the Pope the weight of the book in gold as the price. Pope Julius II., however, refused the offer. At the present price of gold the offer was one of no less than 1,800,000 francs (\$360,000).

"THERE is no room in this Church," said Bishop Dudley, of Kentucky, at the recent convention of the Brotherhood of St. Andrew, "and there is no room in this Brotherhood for men who are not quite certain about the miraculous Incarnation of our Lord. There is no room for theory; no room for argument; no room for speculation over these things. Men, clergymen and laymen, must believe the creeds of the Church."

THE REV. S. R. CROCKETT, the author of "The Stickit Minister," says that "Pilgrim's Progress" was the only imaginative book which he was permitted to read in his early days. He adds: "I used to be fond of acting scenes from it with a cousin of mine who sometimes came to play with me. He always wanted to be one of the respectable characters; but I invariably chose Apollyon, and threw darts from hell with such force and precision as to make my victim howl."

ELOQUENT RAGS.—Talking about the way boys were admitted to his Home, Doctor Barnardo said to an interviewer:

"I was standing at my front door one bitter day in Winter, when a little ragged chap came up to me and asked me for an order of admission. To test him, I pretended to be rather rough with him.

"'How do I know,' I said, 'if what you tell me is true? Have you any friends to speak for you?'

"'Friends!' he shouted. 'No, I ain't got no friends; but if these 'ere rags,'—and he waved his arms about as he spoke—'won't speak for me, nothing else will.'"—*The Quiver*.

## FROM FOREIGN LANDS.

## CANADA'S LATE PREMIER.

THE death of Sir John Thompson has robbed the British Empire of one of its noblest sons, for the late Premier was universally regarded as a particularly bright star among the upright and unselfish men for which Canada is famous. Sir John Thompson was on a visit to Europe, and had gone to Windsor to have an audience with the Queen, when he suddenly succumbed to kidney trouble, which had, no doubt, been aggravated because like other busy men he did not give himself the time necessary for physical exercise. He was only fifty years of age, and entered upon a Parliamentary career but a few years ago as the Representative for Antigonish, N. S. He had been a prominent figure



SIR JOHN THOMPSON.

on the Nova Scotia bench, but, like Sir Oliver Mowat, was prevailed upon to serve his country in a political capacity. He rose to prominence rather rapidly, and became a member of the Canadian Cabinet under the late Sir John Macdonald, as Minister of Justice, succeeding to the Premiership about two years ago. He enjoyed more freedom from attack on the part of the opposition than most statesmen of high rank, and his death has

called forth expressions of universal regret both in Canada and in Great Britain. The high respect in which he was held by his countrymen is perhaps best illustrated by the opinion of the Prohibition organs, who, standing aside from the strife between the Conservatives and Liberals, are enabled to judge more calmly. *The Templar*, Hamilton, says:

"Sir John Thompson, as Premier, never gave any encouragement to Prohibitionists. . . . He was nevertheless personally very much in sympathy with Temperance, and on more than one occasion expressed himself strongly upon the awful results of drink, and the necessity for strong measures of repression. He was a remarkably clean public man, an intellectual giant, a deliberate but eloquent orator, and a very genial companion."

*The Daily Witness*, Montreal, says:

"His death will be a loss to the country; he was personally pure, and we have no doubt that he did all short of resigning or smashing his party to rid the Government of corruption, but in vain; his failure was a great disappointment. He was a man of great ability, and devoted to what he believed to be the good of the country. His death dissolves the Cabinet, and the Dominion is to-day in consequence without a Government. It is to be feared that his successor will be a much more dangerous man."

*The Canada*, Ottawa, aptly voices the French Canadian Press when it draws attention to the fact that Sir John did not amass a fortune. The paper says:

"Sir John Thompson died poor, although it would have been easy for him to have amassed a fortune. This teaches us more than one thing. The honesty and integrity of the defunct Minister, never really doubted, are all the more established by the fact that he died poor, and the general idea is refuted that statesmen always work for their own interests. . . . Canada owes to the family of Sir John Thompson the education of his children and the care of his widow."

A subscription has already been started to assist the late Premier's family, and has been eagerly responded to.

The Press of Sir John's own province is specially sincere in its expressions of regret. *The Herald*, Halifax, says:

"As a statesman Sir John Thompson was eminently fitted for the position which he was called upon to fill, and which he did fill with the highest honor to himself and advantage to the country. As a parliamentarian he had few equals, none since the great chieftain passed away. As a debater he had no peer in his own Parliament. He will be especially remembered for his moderation, his honesty, his judicial fairness in dealing with all classes and all public questions."

That he was equally respected by friend and foe is amply proven by the expressions of the Liberal Press. Political feeling is rarely allowed to run riot with our Northern neighbors, yet such sincere expressions of regret are only accorded to men who have won universal respect. *The Free Press*, Ottawa, remarks:

"A man of high integrity and a great legal light, Sir John Thompson has seemed like a Titan among minnows in the ranks of his party and his country had just cause to be proud of him. His politics have not been those with which we have agreed, but political friend and foe will unite in common sorrow for the sudden removal of this distinguished Canadian."

*The Tribune*, Winnipeg, expresses itself as follows:

"There is no man in the ranks of the Conservative Party who could begin to compare with him in point of ability, and his death, particularly at the present juncture, is an irreparable blow to the party. Sir John was a man whom it was impossible not to respect if you had come in contact with him, and realized the intellectual strength of the man."

*The World*, Toronto, dwells with some emphasis on the fact that he was no less a Briton than a Canadian:

"Sir John Thompson's strong point was his thorough loyalty to Canada and his genuine devotion to the Empire. He had a comprehensive grasp of the position of Canada as an independent country, and as an integral part of the British Empire. The events connected with his last trip to England give us an insight into Sir John, the Canadian, and Sir John, the Imperialist. On the day preceding that of his death he presented the case of Canada on the copyright question to the Colonial Secretary. In the face of a strong and united English opposition, Sir John Thompson boldly upheld the principle that Canada must be supreme in the matter of copyright, just as she is supreme in the matter of her tariff."

The British Press chiefly dwelt upon Sir John Thompson's actions as regards the British Empire at large.

"He was pre-eminently a working Minister," says *The Times*, London. "It would be difficult perhaps for his friends to clear his memory wholly from the charge of partisanship when his mind was fully made up, but he rarely made up his mind without careful investigation. During his Premiership he amply justified the confidence placed in him. The position of Canada under his guidance was affirmed and strengthened in the eyes of the world."

*The Standard*, London, praises his Tariff policy as advantageous to the Empire:

"It is partly owing to his ability and tact that the history of Canada since 1892 has been one of uneventful prosperity. True to the traditions of the party that he led in the Dominion, he steadily opposed the fiscal innovations which under the specious name of free-trade would have brought the commerce of Canada within the elaborate and comprehensive protectionism of the United States. Although he was not a free-trader he was always ready to arrange treaties of commerce which he thought would lead to the same practical result. Nor was he altogether disappointed, perhaps, because the negotiations that he conducted had not brought about a complete system of reciprocity between Canada and the United States, since he belonged to that sanguine and loyal and progressive party in the Dominion who are hoping and working for a customs-union which shall ultimately embrace the whole British Empire."

*The Daily Telegraph*, London, says:

"We do not know whether the loss is greater to Canada or England, for, while he was the highest legislative and administrative authority to the former, he was the embodiment to Eng-



fishmen of the supremely English principle of colonial self-government of which the Dominion is so admirable an example."

England justly honored in death the man who had been so faithful to her in life.

Sir John's funeral was made a state affair in England, and was attended by many distinguished persons. The aged Queen caused herself to be wheeled into the room where the remains lay, and placed wreaths of lilies and laurel on the coffin of the man who had been sworn in as a member of her Privy Council only a few hours before his sudden death.

### SOCIALISTS' DEFIANCE OF EMPEROR WILLIAM.

THE present German Parliament is designated by the people it represents as the *Radau Reichstag*, the Congress of Rowdies. According to the latest reports, that distinguished body is anxious to retain this nickname. Scarcely a sitting is held during which there is not an unseemly scene. The Socialists have begun to force matters, and have, under the guidance of Messrs. Singer and Liebknecht, openly shown that they are dissatisfied with the present form of government in Germany, by refusing to join in the cheers for the Emperor proposed by the speaker of the House, Herr v. Levetzow. The rest of the members lost their temper, and shouted to the Socialists, "Get out of this!" "Throw them out!" and similar expressions. The State Prosecutor asked permission to proceed against the Socialists, and the Speaker expressed his regret that he could not punish them for their actions. An Anti-Revolutionist (*Umsturz*) Bill has been brought in, but its fate is doubtful, as most of the members fear for the freedom of speech in the national assembly.

The *Vorwärts*, Berlin, the principal organ of the Socialists, says:

"Article 27 of the Constitution reserves to the Reichstag the exclusive right to regulate its own discipline. No State Prosecutor has the right to proceed against a member of the House for his actions during a session."

Speaking of the alleged insult to the Crown, the paper says:

"The matter was not arranged beforehand, else all the members of the party would have been present. What could the Socialists do? If they had hurriedly left the Chamber, they would have been followed by derisive shouts. If they had joined in the cheers, they would have been guilty of an act of cowardice; any decent person must acknowledge that."

The paper declares that the *Umsturz* Bill has been modeled after the Illinois law, which made the "legal murders" in Chicago possible. The *Vorwärts's* excuses, however, do not even find favor in the eyes of the most advanced Liberals. The *Frankfurter Zeitung*, Frankfort, a paper of democratic tendencies, says:

"One could have believed that the Socialists did not mean to make a demonstration, if Singer had not said that 'they would not cheer the man who said that soldiers must fire on their brothers and fathers.' That is a strange excuse. The cheers for the Emperor have been customary since the Reichstag exists, but the Socialists absented themselves during the reign of other Emperors as well. If they wanted to protest against the *Umsturz* Bill, they could have addressed themselves to the Chancellor. Perhaps they wanted to show that they were very Radical and very courageous. If so, they certainly did it in a very cheap way. Unless they have their own reasons for courting prosecution, they should remember that their demonstration must be welcome to their opponents."

The *Norddeutsche Allgemeine Zeitung*, Berlin, is astonished that the Socialists should have shown so little discretion.

"They have practically put themselves outside of the Constitution," says this paper. "Singer has made it easy for the House to decide on the *Umsturz* Bill. He has spoken in favor of a

bloody revolution by objecting that soldiers should be instructed in their duties. . . . It is nevertheless a pity that he could point to the Agrarian Conservatives as people who threatened to join the Socialists. The Conservatives ought to have taken hold of the chance to sever their connection with men who insult the Monarchy."

The Agrarian papers had remarked, petulantly, that the farmers would be forced to join the Socialists if they were not protected against the competition of foreign produce. The petition of the State Prosecutor for permission to act against the Socialists was nevertheless refused by the Reichstag, and the Press applauds this decision. The Christian-Socialist *Volk*, Berlin, says:

"The *Umsturz* Bill would be dangerous to the liberty of the people, and there is no necessity for such an extreme measure. It is intended to protect religion and the Monarchy. But both the Monarchy and religion are well able to stand criticism. Hardly two State Prosecutors agree upon the question of religion, and as to the Monarchy, it might happen that whosoever openly confesses his enthusiasm for Schiller's 'Wilhelm Tell' may get three years under pretense that he glorifies murder."

Even the Conservative papers are doubtful whether it is wise to pass a bill that might curtail the liberty of the Press, especially as there are doctrinary objections. Thus the Ultra-Conservative *Kreutz-Zeitung*, Berlin, draws attention to the fact that the States of Hamburg, Bremen, and Lubeck are republics, and might put forward that Germany is rather a Union of States than an Empire. Bismarck's organ, the *Hamburger Nachrichten*, Hamburg, makes a remark which, from its pithiness, may be easily recognized as coming from the old Chancellor:

"There can hardly be any doubt that the Socialists had come prepared to create a row in the House. The best inscription for the memorial tablet in the Chamber would be: '*Discite justitiam, moniti, et non temnere Deos!*' [Be warned, learn to do right, and do not disregard the gods!] The Socialists themselves have supplied the proper text."

It is not improbable that the Emperor will appeal to the country by dissolving the Reichstag and ordering an election. Petitions to do this have been signed to a large extent in Saxony, where the Socialists are strongest. The Emperor does not believe that the Socialists meant to insult him personally; he regards their demonstration as an attack upon the Constitution.

### HOPES OF RUSSIAN LIBERALS.

RUSSIAN Press-censorship is proverbially strict. Yet, even in Russia, expressions of a more liberal character are not altogether forbidden. The opinions to which the newspapers give vent have to pass muster before the local censor, an individual who, in many cases, holds rather advanced views, especially if the Governor of the province favors such views. It appears that the St. Petersburg officials have received a hint from the throne that the word "reform" is not regarded with absolute dislike under the new régime. At any rate, there is marked change in the tone of the Press of the Russian capital. The new Czar is exhorted, though in a most respectful manner, to follow the lines laid down by his grandfather. The *Ruskijor Vjedomosti* says:

"The beginning of the present reign reminds Russia of that of Alexander I. He too mounted the throne at an early age; he too promised in his first proclamations to have most at heart the happiness of his people. Reforms which had been introduced by Catherine II., but were thrown overboard during the rule of Paul I., were again revived by Alexander I. He increased the autonomy of the cities and provincial councils, did much for the general education of the people, freed many prisoners from bondage and laid the foundation for the great reforms carried out by Alexander II. Unless all signs deceive us, the end of the present century will be similar to its beginning in its importance to the

development of Russia, and the new régime will realize all the lofty demands which the spirit of the times is making."

The *Novoje Vremja*, St. Petersburg, writes in a similar strain. In an article on the arrival of the Czar at St. Petersburg, the paper says:

"His Majesty has promised in Moscow to lead Russia along enlightened paths. It is not impossible to do so, as the history of his grandfather proves, who carried out such stupendous reforms as the liberation of the serfs, and laid the foundation for the rapid growth of his Empire, at the same time fitting it for its important place in the history of the world. The Czar of this great country cannot have a better aim than to adhere to the lofty principles of his ancestor, and to show confidence in the powers of his people. Russia is much in need of the educational efforts of her rulers, in order to increase her moral strength and raise her prestige. Not in the bondage of tradition, but in the promptings of his own youthful heart, will the Czar find the strength necessary to develop his country. His own impulses will be the best light on his path."

### HAVE EUROPEAN MONARCHS FORMED A COALITION?

H. M. HYNDMAN, in his paper, *Justice*, London, endeavors to arouse the flagging interest of Englishmen in the struggle for the republican form of government. He believes that the kings and queens of Europe have formed a powerful international combination, which must be carefully watched and eventually broken up. Comparing this Monarchist International with the Roman Catholic Church, the Jews, and the Socialists, Mr. Hyndman expresses himself in the main as follows (we condense somewhat his language):

The Roman Catholic Church is at the present time by far the best organized, the best informed on matters of international polity, and, by reason of its huge army of celibates, within its limits the most formidable of the three, and acts in one piece all over the planet. The Jews, in affairs of finance, have had for many centuries an International of their own, which also is extraordinarily well informed on all points of international business. But, influential as this Semitic fraternity of bankers and loan-mongers undoubtedly is, the Jew power is under no acknowledged leadership, and very rarely acts with intention toward any determinate end. Besides, the Jews nowadays consist of two bitterly hostile classes—the rich and the poor. Last of the three comes the Socialist International, which is only in process of formation; up to a certain point, combination has very nearly been reached, but for really formidable action against the capitalist and landlord class the Socialist International still lacks almost everything that goes to constitute an organized army. We have neither money, discipline, nor recognized leaders, while the language difficulty affects us far more than it does either the Roman Catholic or the Jew. As a power to be wielded to the utter and final destruction of our enemies, our International is coming, but has not yet come.

Meanwhile a fourth International has been formed which ought to be very carefully watched by Socialists of every nationality. This is the Monarchist International. It is based not only upon the interests of the Royal Families of different countries, but upon the closest kinship and blood connection between those various Royal Families. In fact, it is scarcely too much to say that, as regards the leading Powers and several of the minor Powers of Europe, there is only one Royal Family. They, or at any rate, the women-folk of them, keep up constant correspondence on every subject, political or other, which they think can possibly interest their relations at a distance. Further, communications being now so much more complete than they used to be, the different personages who form this powerful Royalist International meet much more frequently, and can exchange direct personal confidences with much more security than was formerly the case. That they are all well informed it is not necessary to say; they cannot help being so, if they have any brains at all. Brought up in politics from infancy, taught every European language, with the most capable servants at their command, they know all that is going on which can possibly affect them or their set. Do not let us make any mistake about that. Moreover,

there are no "Cabinet secrets" for them. They have the right to be told what passes when a dozen or more titled mediocrities meet in constitutional countries and play at being statesmen; the whole policy of England, Germany, Russia, and Austria—to say nothing of others—could be, and probably is, discussed in a small family circle at which every human being present is a close blood-relation of all the rest.

It is the fashion to say that these family connections have no real influence upon the current of state affairs. What nonsense this is our own history repeatedly teaches us. How about the Franco-German War? The Queen of England had then, and has now, great influence alike on appointments at home and on politics abroad. At the critical moment her opinion carried this influence against interference in favor of France, after Sedan and the proclamation of the Republic. Englishmen, as a whole, were in favor of such intervention, and though that accomplished old fribble, the late Lord Granville, might have been scared by Prince Bismarck's bullying braggadocio, the nation at large would have laughed at his silly threats. But the Queen, with her Court, as usual pursued a German, not an English, policy, and had her own way.

We have no prejudice against our own Royal Family, as a Royal Family. Our fathers asked them here, and they will stay as long as we choose to keep them. When we have done with them we are quite strong enough to bow them politely out, and to pay them, if necessary, to go away. But they are forming closer and ever closer connections with people who are and must be bitterly opposed to the establishment of anything in the shape of a genuine democratic and social republic in this or any other country. We have, in fact, in front of us a complete combination of kings and their courts against the democracies of Europe. It will be the fault of the people themselves if these conspiring malignants are not taught in the Nineteenth and Twentieth Centuries, as they were in the Seventeenth and Eighteenth, that the power of monarchy is very easily "limited" by a process more summary than pleasant, if those who attempt to exercise it carry their intrigues a trifle too far.

### ARMENIAN ATROCITIES.

LIKE the news from the seat of war in Eastern Asia, the stories told of the horrible atrocities said to have been committed by the Turkish troops must be taken with caution. It is now generally admitted that the Armenians were up in arms against the Mohammedans, and although the Turkish soldiers undoubtedly handled the rebels pretty roughly, the number of slain appears largely overrated. A correspondent of the *Kölnische Zeitung*, Cologne, writes:

"The massacre began September 5. Those Armenians who gave themselves up were tied to poles and their limbs were cut off with saws. Children were boiled in oil, women tortured and burned to death. Among the eye-witnesses was a Spaniard named Ximenes. The Turkish officials attempted to bribe this man by the offer of large sums to deny the story of these atrocities in the English Press and to give lectures in England on the Armenian question. Señor Ximenes, however, resolutely refused to accept any such offer."

It is hardly likely that the Turks would have allowed such a dangerous witness to escape if they really feared his testimony, especially as they are supposed to have successfully concealed the massacre for months. It is far easier to believe that the British Government is preparing the way to make the Sultan pay the score in the Anglo-Russian agreement. *The Manchester Guardian*, Manchester, is informed that "Sir Philip Currie, the British Ambassador to the Porte, has taken a very firm stand" since Lord Kimberley has been asked to appoint an independent Commissioner to sit on the committee sent by the Sultan to the scene of the troubles.

By accepting the Chancellorship of the German Empire, Prince Hohenlohe loses money. The Chancellor receives only about \$12,000 a year, extras included; the Governor of Alsace-Lorraine (the position formerly held by the Prince) receives \$36,000. The Emperor offered to make up the deficiency, but Prince Hohenlohe has refused to accept. It is against his wish that the Reichstag should be asked to increase the allowance of the Chancellor.



## HONORS TO THE CHAMPION OF PROTESTANTISM.

SWEDEN and Germany celebrated on December 3 the three hundredth anniversary of the birth of Gustavus Adolphus. Few monarchs have exercised a more lasting influence upon the historical development of the world. Gustavus Adolphus was loved by his people as a just monarch, more inclined to listen to



GUSTAVUS ADOLPHUS.

the complaint of an humble countryman than to the wishes of his Lords; he organized the Swedish army, and raised his kingdom to the rank of a first-class Power. But his most important actions were performed in Germany, where he had gone to defend Protestantism, and where he eventually met his death on the battle-field of Lutzen. All Protestant people in Europe acknowledge that without the help of this Swedish King the cause of Protestantism would have been lost in Germany, and probably in the whole world. Every paper in Germany contains long accounts of the history of this King. The orthodox Protestants are inclined to regard him as a kind of Protestant saint, who only crossed the Baltic to save the cause of the Reformation, and who would have quietly returned to his Northern home when this object had been accomplished. The Catholics describe him as a brutal conqueror, whose path was marked by murder and pillage. One of the least passionate comments is that of the *Kurier*, Hanover, which says:

"The King came very near establishing a Protestant Empire in Germany two centuries and a half before the actual realization of that wish. Although the German princes, the Protestants included, opposed him at first, his rapid victories and the good behavior of his troops soon gained the good will and respect of the people, especially as the Imperial troops fighting on the side of Papacy committed most horrible cruelties. The Elector of Brandenburg ceased to oppose the Swedish King when the Imperials, under the command of Tilly, had plundered Magdeburg and burned that prosperous city to the ground, not more than 5,000 of the 30,000 inhabitants escaping with their lives. Other cities feared a like fate, and in many places, notably in Nuremberg, the mayor openly declared that, if a new Emperor had to be chosen, no better man could be found than the King of Sweden. Death put a stop to his plans, but had he been permitted to carry out his ambitious designs, Germany would not have been reduced to a political nonentity and her fields would not have served the armies of Europe as a battling-ground. Gustavus Adolphus would have protected Germany with a strong hand. When the French asked him to assist them in obtaining Alsace and Lorraine, which then were still part of the Empire, he declared that he had come 'to protect, not to betray Germany.'"

**Relief for Unemployed Rulers.**—News about the Korean War is scarce and contradictory. The only thing known is that Japan is vigorously pushing her armies forward, and the Chinese have not as yet been able to stop them anywhere. Much speculation is indulged in as to what will ultimately be the fate of the huge Empire in Central Asia, but there is no doubt expressed anywhere that China must knuckle down to civilization. One of the most amusing propositions appears in *The Week*, Toronto. The writer thinks that the Powers might do worse than meet and help themselves to the vast territory; that the Chinese, once rid of the Mandarins, would soon accept their new masters. He then says:

"The Chinese Empire is divided into 18 grand provinces, representing an average area each of 248,000 square miles. Now the home German Empire contains 211,000 square miles, the French Republic 204,000, and the British Isles 121,000—but the latter have possessions equal to nearly three Chinese Empires rolled into one. The 18 Chinese provinces could thus make as many empires, republics and kingdoms, not forgetting even 'protectorates.' Why not put an advertisement in the papers, under the 'Wants' heading, that 18 kings are needed? There are several who are out of employment and a few anxious to be engaged, but who 'have got no work to do.' Indeed an opening might be made for a few presidents for republics. Germany alone could supply the kings and South America the presidents. In any case 'Old China' has no longer admirers. The carving out of the territory need not now be long delayed; no resistance is to be expected from soldiers who will not fight, nor from generals who take French leave of their troops on the eve of battle."

## FOREIGN NOTES.

THE Italian Government has ordered large masses of troops to Rome; the garrisons of the larger cities are on the alert for serious riots; and even an attempt at overthrowing the authority of the Government threatens the country. Ex-Premier Giolitti has given to the Parliament some papers relating to the Banca Romana swindles, in which many influential persons were implicated. It is said that the Giolitti documents prove the Bismarck of Italy, Signor Crispi, to have been no better than the rest of the bribed Parliamentarians. As Crispi is a comparatively poor man, it should be easy for him to refute these accusations. But many members of the Chamber of Deputies welcome a scandal to hide their own sins. The King has spoiled their game by adjourning Parliament, and a dissolution may follow. The country will be given a chance to choose between the Government and a corrupt Parliament, but it is very likely that the moneyed Parliament, assisted by the *padrone* system which makes free voting impossible, will gain the day.

ACCORDING to Shanghai advices, the Chinese Government intends to send another delegation to Japan to arrange the preliminaries of peace. The chief of this delegation is Chang-Yin-Huang, formerly Chinese Minister at Washington, and now a member of the Tsung-Li-Yamen, or Foreign Board.

*The Daily News*, London, declares that Armenia will be made an independent duchy, with the Duke of Teck as its sovereign. This is, however, a very far-fetched rumor. Russia and England have not yet been notified by the rest of the powers that they can do with Turkish territory as they please.

THE *Memorial Diplomatique*, Paris, is responsible for a note saying that General Körner, a Prussian officer, and a large number of subalterns from the German military service will enter the Chinese army as drill instructors. The Emperor himself is to choose these men, who will be mentioned in the army list as being on unlimited leave of absence. The paper evidently is not aware that, in Germany, officers on leave of absence may not serve a foreign nation.

A GERMAN ex-cavalry officer has been found guilty of espionage in Paris, and sentenced to five years' imprisonment. The matter is the cause of some irritation in Germany, where the man is regarded as innocent, having gone to Paris to enjoy himself.

JOHN BULL OFFERS TO RELIEVE THE GRAND TURK.  
—Kladderadatsch, Berlin.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

## SHALL WE YET FLY LIKE BIRDS?

IT is evident that aeronautics is fast becoming a regular department of scientific research. The literature of this subject grows month by month, aeronautic societies are at work, and there are now published a number of reviews in which aeronautics is scientifically discussed. Prince Krapotkin, writing for *The Nineteenth Century*, December, about flying-machines, imbues his article with an enthusiasm that is catching. He says:

"We have under our very eyes a most perfect flying-machine—the bird—and we have only to study, from a physical point of view, the laws of its flight, in order to find out the laws which must guide us in our schemes. This is what science has tried to do ever since the time of Leonardo da Vinci. But, owing to a want of interest in such researches in the general public, the scientist had hardly completed his work ere it was forgotten. The wonderful observations and physical reasonings and experiments of Leonardo da Vinci had to be re-discovered a few years ago. Even the admirable work of Borelli, who wrote on the flight of birds in 1680, and the very valuable researches of Silber-schlag, published in 1783, were little known; nay, even the work of Cayley, which dates from 1796, had fallen into oblivion. Modern science had thus to begin anew, and it began by dismissing, first, certain prejudices which had taken hold of most minds.

"One of these prejudices was to believe that the warm gases contained in the cavities of the bird's body and its quills render it lighter than an equal volume of air. Every one can, however, calculate how insignificant the effect of that warm air must be; and every one knows that a bird which has been wounded on the wing falls at once to the ground. This prejudice could easily be discarded; but another, as to the immense force which the bird is supposed to develop during its flight, is much more difficult to get rid of. No amount of evidence, borrowed from what every one can verify by dissecting the muscles of a bird, or by observing the ease with which it flies, could overthrow that very common error, supported by the most fallacious calculations of a French mathematician made in the early part of this century. It took Professor S. Langley in America nearly four years of careful experiments to show how erroneous were both those calculations and the data upon which they were based. Now we can at last take it as granted that, although the energy spent by birds in sustaining themselves in the air varies a great deal according to their shapes and manners of flight, it is less than one one-hundredth to two one-hundredths of one horse power for each two pounds of body weight. And, as art has already succeeded in producing small prime motors whose weight does not exceed ten pounds per horse-power, one sees at once that the problem to be solved by the flying-machine offers no mechanical impossibility, provided we learn to utilize the energy of our motor as well as the birds utilize their forces.

"The next step to be made is, accordingly, to learn from the birds how best to utilize the force of a motor, and therefore to study the mechanical details of birds' flight. Science has done this well, and we have already most excellent guides for this part of the problem in the works of the Duke of Argyll, Mr. Pettigrew, Mouillard, and the fundamental work of Marey (*Le Vol des Oiseaux*), in which last all such problems have been treated with the aid of instantaneous photographs, taken at intervals of small fractions of a second, not to speak of many others, each of which contains some valuable information. It would be impossible to describe here in a few words, and without the aid of drawings, the admirable mechanism by which the bird drives the air with its wings (rigid at the front edge and flexible at the back), compresses it, and has only to progress forward in order to sustain itself in the air in spite of the action of gravitation. But what must be said is that a continuous rotatory movement being more advantageous in a machine than a mechanism which would be an imitation of the flapping of the wings, the best form to be given to a screw-propeller which has to act in the air was indicated by such investigations. It was found already by Leonardo da Vinci, and worked out by Cayley in 1796. It has been lately studied experimentally by several physicists, meteorologists, and inventors—all experiments proving the considerable lifting powers of a screw-propeller in the air. And we have now a

direct proof of these powers in Maxim's machine. His propeller, which rotates in a medium having such a small density as air has, communicates nevertheless to the heavy machine, with its motor, aeroplane, and a dozen passengers, a horizontal speed of nearly forty miles in the hour. Half the problem is thus solved.

"We all know, indeed, that most birds, before they can rise in the air, must acquire a certain horizontal speed. Many good flyers can be kept prisoners in an open small yard surrounded by walls twenty feet high, or even on a small open pond surrounded by low but grassy shores, upon which the bird cannot take the necessary run. But once a bird has acquired this speed—and it mostly acquires it by running against the wind—it flies with a wonderful ease; its spread wings and its speed sustain it. Once in motion, the swallow and many other birds will fly any amount of time, hardly using at all their wings for flapping. . . .

"To be lifted in the air, and to move in it in a horizontal direction, is, however, one part only of the problem. The other is to maintain equilibrium, which is continually modified by the continually changing pressure of air upon the different parts of the aeroplane or the superposed smaller aeroplanes. The bird feels the changes of pressure on its wings, and gently alters their position, in the same way as the bicyclist feels the slight alterations of equilibrium and changes accordingly the relative positions of his two wheels. But a flying-machine must accomplish this automatically; and before this is achieved, some better acquaintance with the minute details of the art of flying will necessarily be required. This is what gives an especial interest to the flights which Otto Lilienthal has performed in Germany. He adjusts to his body a pair of moderate-sized concave wings, and after having taken a run down a gently sloping hill, always against the wind, he is soon lifted in the air. Floating at a certain height over the ground, against the wind, he glides down a gently sloping line without ever attempting to flap with the wings, and he lands some 100 to 300 yards (occasionally, 500 yards) from the spot where he left the ground. Of course, this is not flight properly speaking, but, as foreseen by Lord Raleigh, in 1883, it is through such experiments that we may learn the technics of flying and steering. Through them we learn also a good deal about the lifting force of the wind. Thus, during one of his experiments, Lilienthal was caught by a gust of stronger wind, and instead of being thrown backward by it, or being overturned (this last was prevented by a timely maneuver of the feet), he was *lifted* to a higher level than the spot where he left the ground. He simply received an object-lesson in soaring. It is known, indeed, that when a fresh breeze is blowing, many big birds, after having reached a level of from 200 to 300 feet by means of strokes of their wings, remain almost motionless in the strong breeze, and by simply changing the inclination of their wings and the direction of their gliding they gradually rise to the level of 2,000 and 3,000 feet, as they describe their great spirals. Rising in the air, without spending any muscular effort, certainly sounds like a paradox; but the best naturalists, including Audubon and Darwin, are unanimous in testifying that in such flight the birds do not flap their wings; they even do not move the feathers of their wings; and it now appears certain, after a long discussion has run through the papers on the subject, and exhaustive experiments have been made, that no such movement is needed in reality. The bird, gliding against the wind, is lifted by it and rises to a higher level, in the same way as Lilienthal was thrown upward against his own will; and it takes advantage of the thus gained height for gliding down a slightly inclined line and for acquiring velocity, which permits it again, after it has turned against the wind, to win in height. But still these maneuvers did not well explain how the bird could gradually rise to a higher level, and some uncertainty continued to prevail about the matter.

"The key to the puzzle (foreseen by Lord Raleigh as early as 1883, and indicated by Mouillard) was finally given this year by Professor Langley, again on the basis of physical experiments, in which the American physicist is known to excel. The explanation is in the 'waves and gushes' of which every wind consists. Wind, we now learn, is not what it is usually considered to be. It is not a 'mass of air in motion,' but consists of small masses moving with such irregularities of speed as we never suspected before. By means of very light paper anemometers, the rotations of which were measured every second instead of every minute, Professor Langley ascertained that the velocity of wind is continually changing. It varies every second, and while the



average velocity may be twenty-three miles, it will, in the course of one minute, be altered several times, from twenty-three miles to thirty-three miles, back to twenty-three, then to thirty-six, then fall to zero, and so on. So that a heavy bird which glides with a certain velocity through the air can constantly utilize the gushes of the wind to be lifted, without ever using its wings for flapping. It has, Professor Langley shows by direct experiments upon floating surfaces, merely to change the inclination of its wings in order to win in height, and then to spend part of the potential energy in acquiring velocity, all this with the judgment which it derives from its experience of the medium it lives in. The differential energy of the gushes supplies the necessary energy for lifting the bird. These considerations explain why birds succeed with so little or no effort in rising to great heights, or in covering immense distances. They do what the boatman does when he takes advantage of a gust of wind to progress under sail. They may be said to take tacks, but in a vertical direction.

"The above sketch can only convey a very faint idea of the rich body of data upon which scientific investigation bases its conclusions as to the full possibility of aerial navigation by means of a machine which is heavier than air. All the elements of the problem are being settled one after the other by experiments and calculations, and the points in which the aid of the mathematician is especially required are indicated. The data are there, and what is wanted is the creative inspiration to utilize these data."

### READING CHARACTER IN THE HAND.

THE latest defense of cheiromancy appears in the form of a book ("Cheiro's Language of the Hand") written by a professional reader of hands in New York City. He defends it upon a Scriptural basis, laying special stress on Job xxxvii. 7, which he translates: "God placed signs or seals in the hands of men, that all men might know their works." He defends it also upon a scientific basis, as follows:

"As regards the nerves, medical science has demonstrated that the hand contains more nerves than any other portion of the system, and the palm contains more than any other portion of the hand. It has also been shown that the nerves from the brain to the hand are so highly developed by generations of use, that the hand, whether passive or active, is in every sense the immediate servant of the brain. A very interesting medical work states 'that every apparent single nerve is in reality two nerve cords in one sheath; the one conveys the action of the brain to the part, and the other conveys the action of the part to the brain.'

"In connection with this, it is important to consider the corpuscles that are found in the hand. Meissner, in his 'Anatomy and Physiology of the Hand' (Leipzig, 1853), showed that these corpuscles in the hand have a very important meaning. He demonstrated that these 'unyielding molecular substances' were found in the tips of the fingers, the lines of the hand, and disappeared completely at the wrist; that these corpuscles contained the end of the important nerve fiber, and during the life of the body gave forth certain crepitations or vibrations, which ceased the moment life became extinct. 'I have counted,' says he, 'in the first phalange of the volar surface of the fore-finger of a full-grown man, one hundred and eight corpuscles, and about four hundred papillæ, in a square line.'



MARK TWAIN'S HAND.

"These investigations were afterward followed up by experiments as to the noises or crepitations that they gave forth during life. It was demonstrated that people with acute hearing could detect these vibrations distinct and

different in every human being. And in the case of a man experimented on in Paris, who was born blind, but whom nature had compensated by giving him a greater sense of hearing, it was found that by listening to the vibrations of these corpuscles 'he could determine the sex, age, and temperament, the state of health, and even their nearness to illness and death.'"

"Cheiro" lays much stress, also, upon "the ideas of men of learning as regards a fluid or essence in connection with the nerves and the brain." He defends his calling also upon historical grounds, claiming that it had secured recognition among the Hindus "long before Rome, Greece, or Israel was even heard of," and was developed into "the present clear and lucid form" by the Greeks, being sanctioned by Anaxagores, Aristotle, Pliny, Paracelsus, and others.

Whether one approaches the subject from the standpoint of credulity or incredulity, and studies it as a science or as a mere curious superstition, one can find considerable that is of interest, and "Cheiro" has, in addition to giving a somewhat detailed description of his methods, and of the signification of the mounts and lines, embellished his pages with photographs of the hands of a number of well-known persons representing different types, from Meyer who killed his wife to Chief-Justice Coleridge of England. Several of these we present here, too reduced in size for a study of the lines and mounts, but not for a study of the general shape.

Palmistry, we are told, is divided into cheiromancy and cheiromancy, the first dealing with the shape of the hand and fingers, and the hereditary influences of character and disposition, the second relating to the markings of the palm and the past and future events of the life.

"Cheiro's" rules for reading the hand are too many and too long to quote here, but we give a part of what he says about fingers and nails, and thus equipped the reader may study the hands of his friends:

"The Fingers.—Fingers are either long or short, irrespective of the length of the palm to which they belong. Long fingers give love of detail in everything—in the decoration of a room, in the treatment of servants, in the management of nations, or in the painting of a picture. Long-fingered people are exact in matters of dress, quick to notice small attentions; they worry themselves over little things, and have occasionally a leaning toward affectation. Short fingers are quick and impulsive. They cannot be troubled about little things; they take everything *en masse*; they generally jump at conclusions too hastily. They do not care so much about appearances, or for the conventionalities of society; they are quick in thought, and hasty and outspoken in speech. Fingers thick and clumsy, as well as short, are more or less cruel and selfish. When the fingers are stiff and curved inward, or naturally contracted, they denote an excess of caution and reserve, and very often indicate a cowardly spirit. When they are very supple and bend back like an arch, they tell of a nature charming in company, affable and clever, but curious and inquisitive. Naturally crooked, distorted, twisted fingers on a bad hand indicate a crooked, distorted, evil nature; on a good hand they are rarely found, but if found they denote a quizzical, irritating person. When a small fleshy ball or pad is found on the inside of the nail phalange, it denotes extreme sensitiveness and tact through the dread of causing pain to others. When the fingers are thick and puffy at the base, the subject considers his own comfort before that of others; he will desire luxury in eat-



W. T. STEAD'S HAND.



ROBERT G. INGERSOLL'S HAND.

ing, drinking, and living. When, on the contrary, the fingers at the base are shaped like a waist, it shows an unselfish disposition in every way, and fastidiousness in matters of food. When, with the fingers open, a wide space is seen between the first and second, it indicates great independence of thought. When the space is wide between the third and fourth, it indicates independence of action.

"*Disposition as Shown by the Nails.*—In disposition, long-nailed individuals are less critical and more impressionable than those with short nails. They are also calmer in temper and more gentle. Long nails show more resignation and calmness in every way. As a rule their owners take things easily. Such nails indicate great ideality; they also show an artistic nature, and their owners, as a rule, are fond of poetry, painting, and all the fine arts. Long-nailed persons, however, are rather inclined to be visionary, and shrink from looking facts in the face, particularly if those facts are distasteful. Short-nailed individuals, on the contrary, are extremely critical, even of things relating to self; they analyze everything with which they come into contact; they incline to logic, reason, and facts, in opposition to the visionary qualities of the long-nailed. Short-nailed individuals make the best critics; they are quicker, sharper and keener in their judgment; they are, as well, fond of debate, and in an argument they will hold out till the very last; they have a keener sense of humor and of the ridiculous than the long-nailed; they are quick and sharp in temper, and are more or less skeptical of things they do not understand. When the nails are broader than they are long, they indicate a pugnacious disposition, also a tendency to worry and meddle and to interfere with other people's business. Nails short by the habit of biting indicate the nervous, worrying temperament."

#### HOW JOHN RANDOLPH DEFINED "CONDEMNATION."

THE Rev. Dr. Dabney, in "Reminiscences of John Randolph" (*The Union Seminary Magazine*), tells the following good story:

Mr. Randolph accompanied the Rev. Abner Clopton, a Baptist divine, to a service for Negroes. Knowing the weakness of the negroes for an emotional religion, the preacher spoke strongly against this. When the services were about to end, Mr. Randolph arose and spoke in substance thus: "Reverend Sir, I crave your permission to add my word of confirmation to the excellent instruction you have given these people. My excuse must be my great solicitude for the welfare of these dependents of mine." He then proceeded to describe the type of religion too current among Negroes, which made them sing and bow and shout and weep in their meetings, but which failed to restrain them from gross immoralities. At last he evidently lost control of himself: singling out a young buck Negro on the third bench from the front, who had been very emphatic in his *amens* and such like manifestations of piety, he shook his long forefinger at him and said: "Here is this fellow Phil. In the meeting on Sunday he is the foremost man to sing and shout and get happy, and on Sunday night he is the first man to steal his master's shoats—the damned rascal!" Mr. Clopton laid his hand on his arm in protest saying, "Mr. Randolph, Mr. Randolph!" He instantly stopped in the most deferential manner—and asked Mr. Clopton what correction he had to offer. He replied, he thought it his duty to protest against the terms which Mr. Randolph was employing. "What terms?" "Why, those in which you have just addressed that man Phil. It can never be proper in teaching God's truth to use any profanity, seeing God has forbidden it." Randolph replied: "Sir, you both astonish and mortify me. I had hoped that if my credit as a Christian was so poor (and I know that I am but a sorry Christian) as not to save me from the imputation of profanity, my credit as a gentleman should have done so. What then did I say to him that was so bad?" "Why, Sir, you called him in express words 'a damned rascal.'" "And you misunderstood that as an intentional profanity? You fill me with equal surprise and mortification. I considered myself as only stating a theological truth in terms of faithful plainness. Do not the Sacred Scriptures say that thieves are liable to the condemnation of the Divine Judge? And is not this just the meaning of the term which you say I used?"

#### ROSSINI HAD FUN WITH THE BOY.

THE following rules for composing overtures were sent by Rossini in answer to a youthful composer who had asked him by letter "what to do in order to write an overture," and have just been published for the first time. "From the sarcastic strain in which they are written," comments *The Musical Courier*, "it is to be inferred that the great composer was in anything but good humor, or that he wanted to choke off bores. Those who are classed in this category may learn something from these rules, even if they are not addicted to 'composing' music":

1. Wait until the evening before the day the representation is to take place. Nothing is so exciting for the heat of fancy as necessity, the presence of a copyist who is waiting for your work, and the importunity of an embarrassed director, who is tearing his hair out in tufts.

In my time all the directors in Italy were bald by the time they were thirty years of age.

2. I composed the overture to "Otello" in a small room in the Palais de Barbaja, where I had been forcibly incarcerated, by the baldest and most ferocious of the directors, with nothing but a platter of macaroni and a menace not to quit the room until I had written the last note.

3. I wrote the overture to the "Gazza Ladra" the first day it was produced, under the roof of the Scala, where I had been imprisoned by the director and where I was watched by four machinists (stage hands), who had orders to throw my work through the window, sheet by sheet, to the copyists, who were waiting below to transcribe it. In default of music paper they were to throw me out of the window.

4. For the "Barber of Seville" I did better; I did not compose an overture, but took one I had destined for a semi-seria opera called "Elizabeth." The public was exceedingly pleased.

5. I composed the overture to "Comte Ory" while I was fishing, my feet in the water, in company with M. Aguado, who was speaking to me all the time of the Spanish finances.

6. That of "Guillaume Tell" was written under nearly similar circumstances.

7. As for "Moise," I did not write any at all.

**The Late Czar a Trombonist.**—The *Neue Freie Presse* says that when the Czar was at the Castle of Spala, where accommodation was limited, Dr. Zakharin occupied the best chambers of Minister Count Woronzow Dashkoff, in the immediate neighborhood of the Czar's apartments. Once at night the Czar, feeling somewhat better, attempted to play his trombone. Dr. Zakharin asked Count Woronzow to see that he was allowed to sleep in quiet. Count Woronzow informed the Czar that Professor Zakharin asked him to give over playing the trombone, and not to disturb him. The Czar became very indignant, and sent a reply out to the professor that he need not remain a single night at Spala; he was at liberty to leave. Dr. Zakharin left Spala, and Dr. Leyden was called from Berlin. The picture of a dying Emperor playing the trombone is about as absurd a fiction as could well be imagined—outside Gilbertian humor.

It is also said that the late Czar possessed one accomplishment for which he has not as yet received due credit. He was devoted to the cornet-à-pistons, and played that instrument with more than ordinary skill. His teacher was Jules Legendre, a very well-known French performer.

**EMERSON'S OPTIMISM.**—James L. Onderdonk, writing for *The Altruistic Review*, December, says of Ralph Waldo Emerson: "He carried his idealism into politics as well as morals. His ideal republic, hinted at in his writings, and foreshadowed in his conversation at Stonehenge, as related in 'English Traits,' is but the American principle carried to its logical fulfilment. That America should be something more than, and something different from, the Old World, that its ultimate civilization should be something more than a transplanted product, was no mere dream with him. Above all the discordant, turbulent, materialistic elements of our life, he could still discern the true spirit of America, evolving itself, destined, in spite of all, to fulfil its high mission. Unlike many reformers, Emerson never outgrew the buoyant hope of his youth. The serene optimism of his early manhood was the firm conviction of his old age. True to the spirit of the exalted strain which may be regarded as the termination of his poetic career, he 'obeyed at eve, the voice obeyed at prime,' as he calmly awaited the final message to launch upon that unknown sea 'whose every wave is charmed.'"



## BUSINESS OUTLOOK.

## The Bank Statement.

It was generally held that the weekly statement of the Associated Banks was unfavorable in that it showed not only a contraction in loans, but also continued accumulation of specie at the expense of the Treasury. Surplus reserve increased \$554,850, and now stands at \$33,900,675. Loans contracted \$8,605,100; and legal tenders decreased \$8,560,800, while specie increased \$6,551,100. Deposits decreased \$10,294,200, and circulation increased \$36,200.

The market for call loans presented few new features, and the average rate for the week was not over 1½ per cent., although some business was done at as high as 2 per cent. Renewals were mostly at 1½ per cent., but some banks and trust companies endeavored to maintain a minimum rate of 2 per cent. Lenders on time manifested a disposition to exact full rates, and they first quoted 1½ per cent. for thirty days, but subsequently advanced the rate to 2 per cent. The quotation for sixty days to four months is 2½ per cent. and for five to six months 3 a 3½ per cent. The supply of commercial paper is small while the demand for choice lines is urgent, some of the banks accepting somewhat lower than the quoted figures in cases where exceptionally good paper is offered. Rates are 2½ a 3 per cent. for sixty to ninety-day indorsed bills receivable; 3 a 3½ per cent. for four months' commission house and prime four months' single names; 3½ a 4 per cent. for prime six months and 4½ a 7 per cent. for good four to six months' single names. An exceptional sale of a large line of very choice out-of-town paper with a local indorsement is reported at 3½ per cent. for five months.

The United States Assistant Treasurer was debtor at the Clearing House in the sum of \$545,133.

The New York Clearing House reported as follows: Exchanges, \$86,445,901; balances, \$5,146,633.

The following is a comparison of the averages of the New York banks for the last two weeks:

	Dec. 22.	Dec. 15.	Decrease.
Loans.....	\$498,266,200	\$506,871,300	\$8,605,100
Specie.....	72,097,000	65,545,900	*6,551,100
Legal tenders...	100,431,100	109,000,900	8,569,800
Deposits.....	554,509,700	564,803,900	10,294,200
Circulation.....	11,191,400	11,155,200	*36,200

\* Increase.

—Journal of Commerce, December 22.

## General View.

The general trade of the country continues to be marked by the usual features incident to the holiday season. As shown in the bank clearings, the aggregate volume this week was about up to that of last week and 8 per cent. larger than last year, but decidedly smaller than in 1892. The large amount of west-bound traffic of the railways plainly indicates a liberal distribution of merchandise to the interior, while the smaller east-bound tonnage reflects the falling-off in the grain movement by rail. Lake navigation, however, is now practically over for the season, and the railways will soon profit by this, particularly if a better export demand for cereals should set in.

In financial circles probably the most important event was the export of \$4,000,000 gold. The withdrawals on this account, and also by banks, have reduced the Government gold reserve below \$80,000,000 from \$112,000,000 in the early part of the month. The wildcat banking scheme of Secretary Carlisle has done much to accelerate this sudden drop in the Treasury reserve, and the death of the scheme in the House of Representatives before a vote was reached was hailed with satisfaction. The substitute proposed is not likely to become a law, and the people will have to wait for currency reform until the new Republican Congress assumes its legislative duties. There was very little change in the monetary situation, and on the Stock Exchange business drifted into dulness, pending final action on the Pooling Bill, with spasmodic movements in a few of the Industrials and Railways as the only relief to the general apathy.

The produce markets developed weakness for some of the leading products. In the late dealings

cotton was heavy and closed considerably lower on enormous port receipts. The decline would undoubtedly have been larger but for covering of shorts, buying for investment, and the expectation of an early settlement of the war in China. The wheat market has been generally quiet and closed at fractionally lower prices. The receipts have decreased and there has been a great falling-off in the milling demand and but little export inquiry. Corn declined more than wheat, on the prospect of heavier receipts.—*The Mail and Express*, December 22.

## CHESS.

## Problem 37.

White.	Black.
1 Q-Kt 5	Kt x P
2 Kt-Kt 6 ch	K-K 3 or Q 3
3 Q-Q 7 mate	or 2 K-K 6
3 Q-Kt sq mate.	
1 .....	Kt-Kt 3
2 Kt-Kt sq ch	
3 mate given as before.	
1 .....	Kt-B 6
2 Q-Kt 3 ch	K-K 5
3 B-B 2 mate.	
1 .....	Kt-Kt 5
2 Q x P ch	K-B 5
3 B-K 2 mate	or 2 K-K 3
3 B x Kt mate.	
1 .....	K-K 3
2 B-Kt 3 ch	K-B 4
3 Q-Q 3 mate.	
1 .....	K-K 5
2 Q-Kt sq ch	K-Q 4
3 B-Kt 3 mate.	
1 .....	P-Kt 3
2 Q-B 6 ch	K-B 3 (only move)
3 B-K 2 mate.	

Solved by M. W. H., of the University of Virginia, who says: "The problem is an excellent one. It does not offer any 'brilliances,' but by holding them out as temptations, it diverts attention from a sound proceeding."

J. A. Fairlie, Cambridge, Mass., sends as the key-move, B-B 2, but Black plays Kt-Kt 3, and stops further proceedings.

## Problem 38.

White.	Black.
1 Kt-K 4	K-K 3
2 Kt-K B 6 mate.	
1 .....	K-K 4
2 Kt-Q B 3 mate.	
1 .....	K-Q B 5
2 Kt-Q B 3 mate.	
1 .....	B x B
2 Kt-Q B 3 mate.	

Solved by Edwin Charles Haskell, Garrison, Iowa. C. J. Dole, Lorain, Ohio, sends Kt-K B 5, mating with R-Q 4. But Black plays Kt x B and stops the business.

F. H. Eggers, Great Falls, Montana, sends correct solution of No. 37.

Two correspondents think that they have found a "hole" in the solution of Problem 33.

J. A. Dewey, Wanamis, Penn., does not see that if Black plays Q-R sq, White mates by B-Kt 5.

The Rev. S. T. Thompson, Tarpon Springs, Fla., believes that Black Q-Q 2 will stop the mate. But White answers Q-K R sq, threatening mate either by taking Bishop, or if Black plays Q-K Kt 5, White mates by Q-Q B 6. There is also another mate:

White.	Black.
1 Kt-Q 4	Q-Q 2
2 B-Kt 3 mate;	

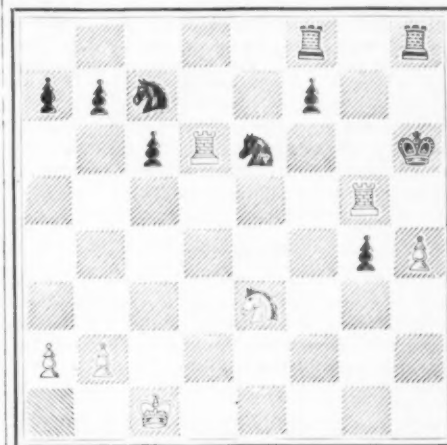
for Bishop cannot take Bishop.

## Problem 39.

According to *The New Orleans States*, the following ending occurred in actual play:

Black—Ten pieces.

K on Q R 3; Rs on K B sq and K R sq; Kts on K 3 and Q B 2; Ps on K B 2, K Kt 5, Q B 3, Q Kt 2, and Q R 2.



White—Seven pieces.

K on Q B sq, Rs on Q 6 and K Kt 5, Kt on K 3, Ps on Q R 2, Q Kt 2, and K R 4.

White mates in four moves.

## Albin and Showalter.

The following game, the eighteenth in the Albin-Showalter match, is highly interesting. Showalter made a hard fight, but was forced to resign after forty-five moves.

## EIGHTEENTH GAME—FRENCH DEFENSE.

SHOWALTER.	ALBIN.	SHOWALTER.	ALBIN.
White.	Black.	White.	Black.
1 P-K 4	P-K 3	25 Q x Q	B x Q
2 P-Q 4	P-Q 4	26 K R-Kt	P-Kt 3
3 Kt-Q B 3	Kt-K B 3	27 R-Kt 3	B-B 5
4 B-Kt 5	B-K 2	28 R-Kt 7	R-K
5 B x Kt	B x B	29 R-Kt 3	P-Q 5
6 P-K 5	B-K 2	30 R x P	B x P
7 Q-Kt 4	Castles	31 R-Q 3	R-Kt
8 B-Q 3	P-Q B 4	32 R-Q	B-Q Kt 5
9 P x P	Kt-Q 2	33 R-R 6	B-Q B
10 Q-R 3	P-B 4	34 R-Q B 6	B-Q 2
11 P-B 4	Kt x B P	35 R-B 4	B-B 6
12 Castles	B-Q 2	36 R x B	P x R
13 K Kt-K 2	P-Q Kt 4	37 R x B	R-K B
14 P-K Kt 4	P-Kt 5	38 R-Q	R-B 5
15 P x P	P x Kt	39 R-K	K-B 2
16 P x P	Kt x B ch	40 P-Q R 3	R-B 7
17 R x Kt	P x P ch	41 P-R 3	K-K 3
18 K-Kt	B-Q Kt 4	42 K-R 2	R x P
19 R-K Kt 3	B-B 4	43 K-Kt	R-Q 7
20 P-B 5	B x Kt	44 P-Q R 4	P-B 7 ch
21 Q-R 6	Q-B 2	45 K x P	R-Q 8
22 P-B 6	R x P	46 Resigns.	
23 Q x R	R-K B		
24 Q-Kt 5	Q-K 2		

The score after the twenty-second game, played Saturday, December 23, is: Showalter 8, Albin 6, with 8 draws.

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## LEGAL.

## Insurance.

In the opinion of the Supreme Court of Missouri, as expressed in *Havens v. Germania Fire Ins. Co.*, 27 S. W. Rep., 718, the words "wholly destroyed," used in reference to a building, in either statute or an insurance policy, must be taken to mean that the building is totally destroyed, as such, though there is not an absolute extinction of all its parts, and that a building is none the less "wholly destroyed" because part of the machinery had been removed therefrom pending repairs, and stored in another building, not exposed to the fire. There is a very valuable article on the effect of these words, in relation to insurance, by M. C. Phillips, Esq., in 33 Cent. L. J., 319.—*The American Law Register and Review*.

## Hypnotism.

*The Albany Law Journal* gives the following statement of a peculiar case of alleged hypnotism. Judge Bailey, who is to preside at the trial, is reported to have said: "This prosecution of Dr. Pickin is the most damnable outrage on law and justice that I have ever known." The case is as follows:

"Hypnotism will probably appear as a factor in a criminal trial, for the first time in the United States, in a case which will be shortly tried in Eau Claire, a large town in the northwestern part of Wisconsin. Unlike the Meyer case in New York and the French and Dutch cases, where hypnotic influence has played a prominent part in the defense, the people in the case under discussion will attempt to prove the commission of the crime of seduction while the complainants were under the hypnotic influence of the defendant, who it is claimed used no force or power except hypnotism. The facts which have been made public are about as follows: Two girls, Edna Mabel Briggs and Alma Leonard, were, it is claimed, hypnotized by a Dr. Pickin, who had only known them by sight and who was never near them until they were put under the occult influence and came to him without any physical effort on his part. The girls claimed that though they desired to do other things, yet the influence exerted over them by the defendant was so strong that they were utterly in his power and were unable to direct their own movements except as the doctor decreed. One of the peculiar statements of the Briggs girl was to the effect that when she was riding a bicycle last June, she desired to ride in a certain direction but was compelled by the hypnotism of the defendant to ride up and down the street in front of the house of Dr. Pickin against her will. We can see no way in which such evidence can be introduced by the people, for though the actions of the girl are admissible, yet it is impossible to show what the defendant desired her to do, as he might have willed her to ride in the direction in which she wished to go and where she claims she was prevented by his influence from going. Again, the complainant alleges that after she was ruined, as she was returning from a neighboring town with the defendant she was compelled by his hypnotic influence to conceal herself from her father, who, fearing for his daughter's safety, was making a search for her with the aid of his neighbors and friends. It may be possible to prove that defendant was acquainted with the use of hypnotism and has practiced it on certain occasions, but it would seem to be a dangerous precedent to establish, to claim it could be shown, as in the cases we have cited, that a person was made to do something which another desired him to do and which in many cases at least would be the act which either a guilty party uninfluenced would do or which would be an act which he afterward desired to excuse himself in some way from having done. This sort of hypnotism does

not go, and will, if once allowed as a defense for crime, make a large and flourishing class of hypnotists who could either swear their crimes off on others or make the jury think them angels of light and goodness by simply passing off on the gentlemen in the box a small part of their stock in hand. Between flying-machines and hypnotism the criminal class will probably enjoy a life of tranquillity and ease."

## Passenger and Carrier.

A person may become a passenger before transportation has actually commenced, and before he has entered the carrier's vehicle. This doctrine was first announced in the case of *Brien v. Bennett*, 8 Car. & P., 724, where the defendant's omnibus was passing on its route, and the plaintiff made a signal for the driver to stop and take him up. The omnibus was stopped for that purpose, and the door opened, but just as the plaintiff was putting his foot on the step, the omnibus was driven along, and the plaintiff thereby thrown down and injured. It was held that the stopping of the omnibus at the plaintiff's request implied a consent to take him as a passenger, and that, thereupon, in attempting to enter the carriage, he had the rights of a passenger. The courts of this country generally have followed this just rule of the English courts, and quite recently the Supreme Judicial Court of Maine added the case of *Rogers v. Kennebec Steamboat Co.* (29 Atl. Rep., 1069) to the accumulating authority on this point.

The court also sustained the reasonable rule that one who accepts and uses a free pass as a pure gratuity, on condition that he will assume all risk of personal injury, must be deemed to have accepted it on that condition, whether he reads it or not; and, further, that such a contract, exempting a carrier from liability, is not prohibited by any rule of public policy, in that State, at least, and is effectual to exonerate the carrier from liability for the negligence of its servant, whereby injury is inflicted upon one who uses such a pass.—*The American Lawyer*, December.

## Wages Payment.

The Kentucky Court of Appeals held, in the recent case of *Averet Beattyville Coal Company*, that section 1,350 of the Kentucky statutes, which provides for punishment of certain employers who shall pay their employees in other than lawful money, is not unconstitutional; that under the statute contracts fixing pay-days at reasonable periods may be made, on which, and not before, the laborer may demand his pay in money; that if the necessities of the workman demand it he may of his own choice, before the arrival of pay-day, obtain relief of his employer through the use of checks for merchandise without subjecting the employer to the penalties demanded in the statute, and that where the defendant was indicted as a corporation failure to show that it was such was fatal to the prosecution, as was also the failure to show that the payments complained of were made after the statute went into effect.—*Bradstreet's*, December 22.

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## Current Events.

Monday, December 17.

Both Houses in session; the debate on the Nicaragua Canal Bill is continued in the Senate; the House passes the Army Appropriation Bill. . . . John McBride is elected President of the American Federation of Labor, Mr. Gompers retiring after several years of service. . . . Seely, the bookkeeper of the Shoe and Leather National Bank of New York, pleads guilty to the charge of robbing the bank.

The debate on the Anti-Socialist Bill in the Reichstag is adjourned until January 8. . . . The French Ministry escapes defeat by a majority of five on the question of depriving the Panama swindlers of their decorations. . . . The Armenian massacre is denounced by a mass-meeting in London.

Tuesday, December 18.

Both Houses in session; Senator Hill speaks in favor of closure, and Senator Turpie discusses the Nicaragua Canal Bill. . . . The debate on currency reform is begun in the House. . . . The Federation of Labor ends the sessions of its Congress in Denver. . . . Mr. Debs declines to appeal from Judge Woods's decision, and decides to go to jail.

England and Russia are reported to have agreed to prohibit attacks by Japanese upon Nankin or Shanghai. . . . Henri Brisson, a Radical, is elected President of the French Chamber. . . . Japan and China will investigate the Port Arthur massacres.

Wednesday, December 19.

Both Houses in session; the Senate receives the report on Hawaii; the Nicaragua Canal Bill is further discussed; the House continues to debate the Currency Bill. . . . The Armenians in Constantinople make charges that Minister Terrell fails to protect the rights of naturalized American citizens in Armenia. . . . A National Bank at Rome, N. Y., is robbed of \$40,000 by a cashier.

A Japanese cruiser captures a Chinese vessel loaded with munitions of war. . . . The trial of Captain Dreyfus, charged with selling military secrets to Germany and Italy, begins in Paris. . . . The new Canadian Ministry is completed.

Thursday, December 20.

Both Houses in session; the statues of Webster and Stark are presented to the Senate by the State of New Hampshire, and speeches of acceptance are made. . . . The Carlisle Currency Bill discussed in the House. . . . Many vessels are reported to have been lost on the Pacific Coast. . . . Ex-Governor Alcorn, of Mississippi, dies.

China sends envoys to Japan to sue for peace; the war is believed to be practically at an end; China is ready to grant all Japan's demands.

Friday, December 21.

The Senate is not in session; in the House a substitute for the Carlisle Currency Bill is introduced by Mr. Springer, which is made the subject of debate. . . . Damaging testimony is given before the New York Police Investigation Committee against the Police Commissioners and other high officials.

The Emperor of China grants plenipotentiary powers to Chang Jin-Kuan to make peace with Japan. . . . The British Government is reported to have offered aid to Newfoundland; business on the island is completely at a standstill.

Saturday, December 22.

A suit to test the constitutionality of the income tax was begun in the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia. . . . Cedarcroft, the former home of Bayard Taylor, near Kennett Square, Penn., was burned.

A great gale is raging in the British Isles; many lives are reported lost on land and sea. . . . Captain Dreyfus was found guilty by the French court-martial, and was sentenced to life imprisonment and to degradation from all military rank and honors. . . . The report of the death of Robert Louis Stevenson is confirmed by advices from Samoa.

Sunday, December 23.

Governor Hogg, of Texas, sent a requisition to the Governor of Florida for the person of H. M. Flagler, of the Standard Oil Company. . . . The people of Muskogee, Indian Territory, are arming to repel "Bill" Doolin's gang, who threaten a raid. . . . The people of the drought-blighted counties of Nebraska are starving and in lack of clothing.

A fierce battle was fought between the fugitive Chinese garrison of Hai-Cheng and a Japanese force under General Katsura; the Chinese were defeated. . . . Further reports of loss of life on land and sea were received from the United Kingdom; the storm did great damage also in Belgium, Holland, France, and Germany.

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